THE INDEPENDENT

WEDNESDAY 2 DECEMBER 1998



Nigel Hawthorne: Popgoes the sex, bigotry and Third Way the BBC COMMENT, PAGE 4

INTHE WEDNESDAY REVIEW+FASHION

Brown is snubbed in EU tax row

TONY BLAIR'S European strat- By STEPHEN CASTLE egy was thrown into disarray AND KATHERINE BUTLER last night as Germany and France called for abolition of AND ANDREW GRICE the British veto over tax policy – a move which would open the door to a wide-ranging EU tax harmonisation.

The Franco-German push, at a meeting of European finance ministers, left British ministers and officials strugthat London would be forced to accept a common tax policy. Blair President Jacques Chirac tax policy.

of France and Chancellor Ger-

in Brussels

hard Schröder of Germany meeting in Potsdam - issued a joint call for "speedy progress

in harmonising taxes". Oskar Lafontaine, Germany's controversial new finance minister, inflamed the gling to calm growing fears debate in Britain over EU integration by arguing that the Government would eventually In a further setback for Mr have to surrender its veto on

Currently, all 15 member

nalists in Brussels: "I believe the principle of unanimity can't be maintained in the long run."

He quickly won crucial backing from his French counterpart, Dominique Strauss-Kahn. not going to happen." Asked if he backed Mr Lafontaine's thinking, Mr Strauss-Kahn replied: "Absolutely." He added: "On certain tax subjects

we must end unanimity." For Britain, Gordon Brown. the Chancellor, dismissed Mr Lafontaine's statement as a personal view", and insisted that any move to scrap the

states must agree any changes. British veto would need to be control over income tax, VAT But Mr Lafontaine told jouragreed by all 15 EU countries. and company taxation. agreed by all 15 EU countries. and company taxation. "He won't be making a pro-

posal," said Mr Brown, "benoia of the Eurosceptics," said cause he knows it requires a treaty change which requires unanimity, and that simply is Downing Street said there

was "not a cat in hell's chance" of the Lafontaine plan being implemented. But there was little attempt to conceal anger over Mr Lafontaine's remarks, which threaten to scupper the Government attempts to reassure the public that it could not be railroaded into accepting EU

"He is just fuelling the para-

one cabinet minister. The Tories said Mr Lafontaine's remarks showed that Mr Brown's claim that nobody

wanted tax harmonisation in Europe was "simply ludicrous". By heightening the tempo, yesterday's Franco-German initiative threatens to undermine the Government's unofficial strategy of nudging Britain close to membership of the euro, which is being launched

by 11 EU countries next month.

Although not officially on would like to see tax harmonithe finance ministers' agenda yesterday, the pressure was mounting for more harmoni-Lafontaine called for sweeping moves, not just to harmonise the rates of business tax, but tax bases and thresholds.

Mr Strauss-Kahn echoed the German demand for a minimum corporate rate of tax, arguing: "That's the whole idea behind this exercise." He added: "We can live with different VAT rates or excise tax rates on gas, because they don't tention from the tax row, Mr

sation in two areas: corporate and France in calling for a fivetax and savings taxation."

First steps towards coordisation of company taxation. Mr nation - being made through a code of conduct designed to stamp out "harmful" tax competition, were speeded up yesterday - despite British opposition. Germany. France and Italy led a successful move to bring forward by six months a report originally scheduled for November 1999.

In what was being seen as an lead to tax competition. We Brown used yesterday's meet-

ing to line up behind Germany year reprieve for duty-free shopping which is scheduled to be abolished next June.

The Chancellor had not previously demonstrated any enthusiasm for retaining duty free, but vesterday he blamed the previous Tory government for helping to bury the tax perk, and said he now backed a delay. Despite the firm opposition of at least six member states, campaigners believe attempt to deflect domestic at-

Brown cornered, page 7

Pinochet moves out of hospital

GENERAL AUGUSTO Pinochet By Kim Sengupta, Louise moved into a rented property on JURY, AND MARY DEJEVSKY one of Britain's most exclusive in Washington private estates last night after

tressed at suggestions that he Forsyth and Russ Abbot. had overstayed his welcome at Grovelands Priory Hospital in

Southgate, north London. His solicitor, Michael Caplan, said: "Senator Pinochet and his family are distressed by reports concerning the Sena-tor's stay at Grovelands Prio-merpartner in Dewe Rogerson, ry Hospital ... The Senator has a City public relations firm, always been anxious to move and Lord Bell, former PR adfrom the hospital as soon as possible and suggestions that he has been reluctant to do so are wholly unfounded."

The hospital said it had been a full two weeks since it was . stated in court that General Pinochet was fit to attend his next bail hearing and it was "inappropriate" for him to remain.

One member of staff said before his departure: "Frankly we can't wait for him to go. There is no longer any reason for it will be much better for general's release. our other residents if he does

General Pinochet was heckled by a handful of protesters as he left the hospital just before 7 o'clock last night. He was accompanied by a police Several motorcycle riders

from television stations at- Chile were "wrestling with a tempted to follow the motorcade to find out where the general would be staying, but were prevented from doing so

Friends of the 83-year-old

erty for him on the Wentworth Before he left, the former Estate at Virginia Water, Sur-Chilean dictator said through rey, where fellow residents inhis lawyers that he was dis- clude the comedians Bruce

The manoeuvring over the legal fate of General Pinochet

But James Rubin, State Department spokesman, denied

partment said it was releasing confidential documents relating to human rights abuses under General Pinochet.

Albright, said the citizens of very difficult problem of how to balance the need of justice with the requirements of rec-

being told to leave a hospital in general found a rented prop-

It is understood that among General Pinochet's backers is Carlos Carceres, president of the Chilean subsidiary of BAT. the international tobacco corporation. He has also received viser to the Tories and a longtime associate of Baroness

continued yesterday with the United States administration urging the Home Secretary, Jack Straw, to treat Chile's demands for the senator's return with "significant respect".

the Clinton administration was pushing Britain into making a General Pinochet to stay, and decision in favour of the At the same time the de-

> Answering reporters' ques-tions in Washington, the US Secretary of State, Madeleine

> > Like having Hitler for a

'Distressed' | Portrait in elephant dung wins Turner Prize



neighbour, page 3 No Woman No Cry', by Turner winner Chris Ofili. The figure has an elephant-dung pendant Peter Macdiarmid

Oil giants in world's biggest merger

was unveiled yesterday as the US oil giants Exxon and Mobil and the world's biggest busijoined forces in a \$250bn deal. The merger capped an extra-revenues of \$203bn. ordinary day that saw takeover value of nearly \$330bn.

General Electric of the US, neering sectors.

INSIDE THIS SECTION

THE WORLD'S biggest merger BY MICHAEL HARRISON

ness by sales, with combined

The past fortnight has seen deals announced with a total a feeding frenzy across the Exxon Mobil will be the a string of mega-mergers spanworld's third largest company ning the oil, pharmaceuticals, by value behind Microsoft and Internet, banking and engi-

world's financial markets with

back near to its record high.

The wave of merger activinas to helped revive world saston while the chemicals ty has to helped revive world stock markets, with Wall Street now above 9,000 points and

Two deals unveiled on this side of the Atlantic yesterday looked positively modest compared with Exxon Mobil but are some of Europe's biggest Total is merging with PetroFi-

companies Hoechst, of Germany, and Rhône Poulenc, of France, are combining their pharmaceuticals business in a \$38bn merger.

On Monday, Germany's Deutsche bank announced it Mobil together have about 25 was taking over Bankers Trust mergers. The French oil group of the US for \$10bn while last ket and employ a total of 4,100 week, Siebe and BTR of Britain people in Britain.

merged in a deal worth £8.7bn. The US is also still adjusting to the biggest takeover yet of an Internet business - America OnLine's \$4.1bn acquisition of Netscape Communications.

Exxon, which trades under the Esso name in Britain, and per cent of the UK petrol mar-

> Mother's Ruin How Dylan Thomas and drink did for my mother

> > PAGE 20

Mobil and Exxon will

form a \$330bn company

Mobil

CHRIS OFILL who paints with By DAVID LISTER elephant dung, won the £20,000 Turner Prize last night. He was the first painter since Howard Hodgkin in 1985 to win the visual arts' most prestigious award. Recent years have seen

the award going to installation

and video artists and sculptors. Ofili, 29, the odds-on favourite, was praised by the jury for "the originality and energy of his painting and his dynamic use of colour". Born in Manchester, he studies at the Royal College of Art. The Turner Prize exhibition contains one of his most topical and powerful paintings, No Woman No Cry, a black woman crying, with every tear containing a picture of the murdered black

teenager Stephen Lawrence. It was intended to portray universal grief and suffering, with particular attention to the black community. But as he worked, he became increasingly aware of the Lawrence inquiry and, according to the Tate curator Virginia Button, aware of the image of Doreen Lawrence often in tears, and brought this into his painting.

"Chris followed the coverage of the inquiry and Mrs Lawrence would always be there, weeping, and this is resentation.

Chris's tribute." The figure, New Art.

Arts News Editor

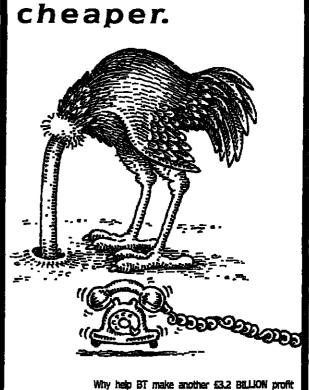
who wears a pendant of elephant dung, was inspired by Mrs Lawrence, although it is not a portrait.

Another of Ofili's works, The Adoration of Captain Shit and the Legend of the Black Stars (Part 2), is described in the Tate exhibition catalogue as being made of acrylic, oil, resin, glitter, paper collage, map pins and elephant dung on canvas with two dung supports.

Ofili beat a shortlist of Tacita Dean, 32, Cathy de Monchaux, 37, and Sam Taylor-Wood, 31. Dean's work included a video of Hungarian women in a steam oath: Taylor-Wood used video with a splitscreen view of a couple arguing in a restaurant: de Monchaux had wall sculptures of metal. pink leather and suede, and a group of lead structures resembling tombstones.

The jury, chaired by the Tate Gallery director, Nicholas Serota, comprised Ann Gallagher, exhibition officer at the British Council, Fumio Nanjo, curator and critic, Marina Warner, author, and Neil Tennant, member of The Pet Shop Boys and representative of the Patrons of

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Home P4 capych indecency Gay rights leader Peter

Hope for pit villages

spend £350m on deprived

The Government is to

mining communities

Tatchell was fined £18.60

Foreign P1€

Rival gangs of Buddhist monks fought in the South Korean capital Foreign P14 Forecasters' disaster

Seoul's 12-hour war

Hurricane experts admit Blackburn Rovers want they failed this year Coventry's Strachan Sport P30

one-day fall since the crash of October 1987 Business P18

Ken Livingstone FTSE 100 had its biggest Why Labour keeps a dossier of my political shortcomings

Comment P4

The shifting sands of

class in modern Britain

Noei Edmonds Answers his adoring public in You Ask The Questions' Features P8 Peregrine Worsthorne

INSIDE THE REVIEW

Mountain blkes One of the irritations of modern life Features P8

Caitlin Features P9 Stores in their eyes Harvey Nicks et al are

fighting for your cash Fashion P10



She's miserable, self-centred and bitter. And she's our friend. What should we do?

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SLAW: THE BARRISTERS WHO ARE FIGHTING OVER PINOCHET **■PLUS THE WEEK'S NEW FILM RELEASES**

THE BEST WRITING, WEEK IN, WEEK OUT: DEBORAH ROSS, HOWARD JACOBSON, HAMISH MCRAE, MARK STEEL, ROBERT FISK, TERENCE BLACKER JOHN WALSH, RICHARD WILLIAMS, DAVID AARONOVITCH, ANNE MCELVOY, THOMAS SUTCLIFFE, MILES KINGTON, SUE ARNOLD, ANDREAS WHITTAM SMITH







A mounted trooper of the Blues and Royals is unable to prevent his horse from reversing into the royal carriage conveying the Queen and President Roman Herzog of Germany in Windsor, injuring his shoulder in the fall

under a bus which mounted a pavement and ploughed through safety barriers at Sunderland bus station.

A two-year-old child suffered serious head injuries and was transferred to Newcastle General Hospital.

Seven other people also struck by the bus were hospitalised with various injuries.

Northumbria Police said the single-decker Stagecoach bus veered out of control as it entered the bus station in the city been waiting on a seat inside of those killed and injured."

The driver of the bus, from Sunderland, was also taken to hospital and is said to be in "deep shock". Police were last night waiting at the hospital to talk to him.

Inspector Ken Short, who is leading the investigation, said: "For some reason as yet unknown the bus went out of control and collided with a number of people who were either queuing for a bus or inside the station." He would not speculate and a bus careering through it."

about the cause of the accident The driver has worked for Stagecoach for 12 months but it is believed he has worked as a bus driver for 20 years and is one of the most experienced drivers on the staff.

Police said last night they were not yet in a position to release information about the two women who have died or the name of the injured toddler.

A spokesman for Stagecoach said: "We are deeply shocked by this tragic accident and our centre. The two women had thoughts are with the families

land, who helped comfort one injured person, said: "I heard a | Safety Executive under the massive smash and when I looked around the bus just ploughed through the bus stop. saw a woman and a young child under the wheels.

Temporary divisional officer Alan Brown, of Tyne and Wear Fire Brigade, said: "The crews were very distressed by what they encountered. Just imagine a packed bus station

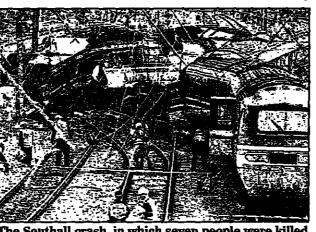
Two killed by careering bus Two women died yesterday after being struck and dragged about the cause of the accident. Rail firm charged with manslaughter with mounted a about the cause of the accident.

Transport Correspondent

THE RAIL company whose train was involved in the Southall crash, in which seven people died and 147 were iniured, was yesterday charged with manslaughter. **Great Western Trains faces**

seven charges through gross negligence following the collision between one of its express trains and a goods train in west London on 19 Septem-John Lamb, 68, of Sunder- | ber last year. It also faces a charge from the Health and 1974 Health and Safety at Work Act. Lawyers welcomed the move but one criticised the Crown Prosecution Service for not pursuing charges against any Great Western directors. which means that, while the company faces unlimited fines. no one faces the threat of a prison sentence.

The passenger-train driver, Larry Harrison, has been



The Southall crash, in which seven people were killed

charged with manslaughter but proceedings have been delayed while the CPS deliberated. The manslaughter case and the HSE case are to be heard in Ealing, west London, on 12 January The HSE prosecution alleges Great Western "failed to conduct ... the provision of transport by rail to members of the public in such a way as to

BRITAIN TODAY

ensure that the public were not exposed to risks to their health and safety".

Louise Christian, of the London solicitors Christian Fisher. said she was concerned the CPS had only pursued charges against the company. "This not what people understand by corporate manslaughter. Everybody understands that at least

cuted as well as the company, because imprisonment has a bigger deterrent value. We are very disappointed, as victims will feel let down." But the decision meant criminal proceedings would examine the role of the rail industry rather than just one person, "It should send a clear signal to all those wolved in the rail industry that there is a real responsibility for the safety of passengers."

Des Collins, a partner with Collins, a law firm in Wattord representing 40 people injured or bereaved in the crash, said: We welcome the fact that it appears we are going beyond first causes of the crash I am encouraged that the CPS and British Transport Police can look beyond the driver and see that other factors may be in-

Great Western Trains said it would be "inappropriate" to comment as the matter was

volved.

Drugs gang link to £6m conman

don's top drugs gang was convicted yesterday of a £6m "sting". Anthony Passmore. 52. was arrested by police as he enticed foreign businessmen and investors to London, intending to steal a further £12m. He told his victims he was a wealthy Dublin businessman and Bank of Ireland executive.

In fact, Passmore was a professional fraudster with links to the notorious Adams family drugs gang. On Friday the Adams' key money launderer Saul "Solly" Nahome, 48, was shot dead outside his home in Finchley, north London.

In September, the gang's second most senior member. Sean "Tommy" Adams, was jailed for seven years for importing £2m

worth of cannabis. When Passmore was arrested he was about to collect a banker's draft for nearly £12m which had been cleared by the Bank of Scotland. He was posing as Anthony Barry, a leading Irish banker. The police have identified 13 victims rooked by Passmore's gang in a six-

month period last year. There

A CONMAN with links to Lon- By Paul Lashmar

are believed to be more. He had conned one group of Hong Kong businessmen out of £750,000. An Italian-Canadian family lost £200,000 and an American psychologist lost £75,000. Passmore lured victims to London with promises of lucrative investments in African countries.

When the Italian-Canadian family realised they had been conned they sent an associate to take revenge. But before he could deal with Passmore he was detained by police at a London hotel and sent home.

At the end of a seven-week trial at the Middlesex Guildhali Court, Passmore was convicted of conspiracy to defraud by a majority verdict. He will be sentenced by the end of the month with his co-accused Keith Bartlett, who had pleaded guilty. A third defendant. Raymond Avar went on the run.

Only £50,000 of the £6m has been recovered. Police are in vestigating whether Passmore has hidden assets in the United States and Spain.

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FORECAST

General struction Southern England and Wales will be mostly dry with some sunny breaks, but there will be a biting easterly wind. North Wales, the north Midlands and northern England will be dry with some sunshine developing after early log and frost has cleared, although the far north of England will be cloudler. Wessern Scotland and Northern Ireland will be largely cloudy with some local driztle, but it will be fairly mild. Eastern Scotland should be dry with sunny spells. Cent N, Cent S, E & SE England, London, E Anglia, Midlands: Cold and mainly cloudy, but also mostly dry although rather misty A light north-easterl wind. Max temp 3-6C (37-41F).

sel is, SW England, Wales: A bister wind with a lot of cloud but also brief sunny breaks. A moderate, locally fresh, north-easterly wind. Mai

NE England: Cold and mostly cloudy with a little drizzle over the hills marning. A light mainly south-easterly wind. Max temp 4-6C (39-43F). NW England, Lake Dist, Isle of Man: Drizzle in places at first, especially over the hills and towards coasts, then mainly dry but cloudy. A light south-easterly wind. Max temp 4-7C (39-45F).

N tretand: Mainly cloudy. A light south-easterly wind. Max temp 7-9C (45-48F) NW Scotland, W Isles: Remaining mild but mainly cloudy with a few spots of drizzle here and there. A light south-westerly wind. Max temp 8-11C (46-52F). SW, SE & NE Scotland, Gizsgow, Ediaburgh, Aberdeen: A lot of cloud but some sunshine. A light southerly wind. Max temp 5-8C (41-46F). N Isles: Cloudy with some drizzly rain in places. A moderate to fresh south-westerly wind. Max temp 10C (50F).

QUTLOOK

England and Wales will be largely dry and cold with night frosts, although a freshering northerly wind may bring a lew wintry showers to eastern counti Scotland and Northern Ireland will become much colder with snow showers.

London: A41 Finchey Rd. From Swiss Cottage to Foruma Green. Major works at Finchiey Rd Gyratory. Unit 31st December. Cambridgeshire A1 between Alconbury and Haddon Construction, lane alcoures and contration. Unit 31st December. and contrallow. Until 31st December.
Buckinghamshire: M40 between jundtons
1e (M25) & 3 (Wycombe East). Three narnow lanes both ways and a 50 mph speed
finat in force. Until 1st January 1989.
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Norfolk: A47 Hardwick Roundebout, Kinga Lynn (A10). Roadworks between the pullower

roundsbout and the Hardwick Roundsbout.
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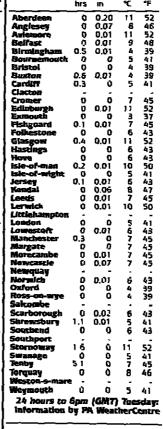
SUN & MOON Sun rises: 07.45 Sun sets: 15.55 Moon rises: 15.42 Moon rises: 15.39

WEATHERLINE

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YESTERDAY EXTREMES

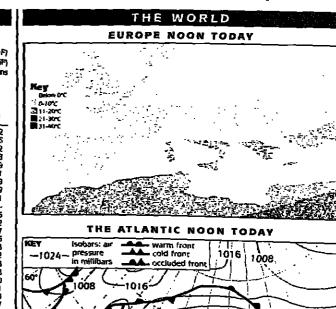
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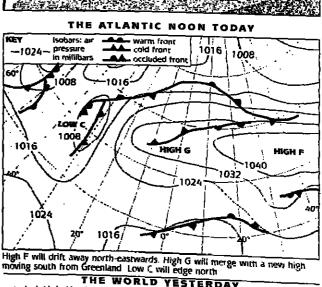


RAIN OR SHINE

FREEZING WEATHER lasting more than two weeks has killed at least 66 people in Poland, well over the total who died from the cold last winter, police said yesterday. Some 54 cold-related deaths

were reported during the winter months last year but an Arctic cold front that hit Poland on 16 November has kept temperatures hovering at minus 12C (10F),





THE WORLD YESTERDAY

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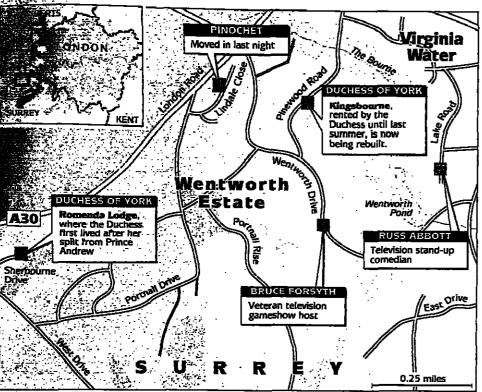
BOXING

SOFAL PROMOTION Weight change

CACTIME THE MARK

It's like having Hitler move in,' say the general's new neighbours in the gin belt

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. Horasa in San





(From left) Russ Abbot, Bruce Forsyth have new Surrey neighbour ... Pinochet



THE DRIVEWAYS are long and BY ANDREW BUNCOMBE, curve gently up towards large, modern houses set in grounds kept immaculate by hired help. There is an abundance of trees, an abundance of swimming pools, and no shortage of polished Bentleys. The welldressed residents have access to a golf club used for the World

Matchplay Championship. Welcome to the exclusive Wentworth Estate at Virginia Water, in Surrey's "gin belt", Bruce Forsyth, Russ Abbot and next door at one time the Duchess of York, of last night – to a former Latin

American dictator. residents here will be keeping up with the Pinochets. The general, forced out of a private hospital in north London, arrived at the estate near Guildford last night and moved into ance of hundreds of his own a high-walled, nine-bedroomed rented property in Lindale.

fore the general moved in there were checks carried out by officers and dog-handlers. There

KIM SENGUPTA AND CATHY COMERFORD

will be a round-the-clock presence until the Home Secretary, Jack Straw, decides the fate of the 83-year-old accused of genocide.

The former dictator's araction from the neighbours. One said she couldn't care less while another said it was like home to celebrities such as being told Hitler had moved in

"To be honest it doesn't surand resting home - at least as prise me," said the woman, who asked not to be named. "There are supposed to be From now on social-climbing Russian underworld figures and members of the Hong the estate, so a former Chilean dictator who is supposed to be responsible for the disappearpeople is not exactly big news."

Another resident, retired banker Sheila Wickens, 60, said Uniformed police sealed off she thought half the estate was that part of the estate and be-made up of homes that were rented out, many to foreigners working in Britain.

guards who patrol the grounds and each road is gated off," she said. "People can pay for close circuit TV and burglar alarms are linked to the police station."

The general has moved into one of the most exclusive parts of the estate, close to the golf course and around 600yds from rival last night drew a mixed re- Pinewood Road, where until March last year the Duchess of from Prince Andrew.

On this part of the estate the houses cost upwards of £6m and some of the driveways are more than half-a-mile long. "You may not see your neighbour in months," said one res-

Estate agent Edward Rook, Kong Triads living around us on of Knight Frank, which has sold many of the houses, said: come here. It is an American

style of living. "There is a bit of space, more than in central London, but not a huge amount of elbow room. The thing is it is not a burden, easily manageable if you are away or overseas."

None of this comes cheaply.

wife, daughter and small entourage will cost around £10,000 a month to rent. It is understood that in addition to this the owner insisted that insurance be taken out against bomb. rocket or firearm damage be-

porters say that money is not ed by local shareholders, some for by the Pinochet Foundation York lived following her divorce a problem. All they want is for of whom have been voicing his enforced stay in Britain to be as comfortable as possible.

Just who is bank-rolling General Pinochet is not clear but it is understood that among his backers is Carlos Carceres President of the Chilean subsidiary of British & American Tobacco (BAT), the international tobacco corporation.

There has also been help "International people like to from Nico Rogerson, former partner in Dewe Rogerson. a City PR firm, and Lord Bell, former PR adviser to the Tories. Sebastian Santa Cruz, the brother of Lucia Santa Cruz a former close friend of Prince Charles - has been acting as coordinator for the campaign.

BAT denied yesterday that it "Each resident pays for se- Estimates suggest the house was contributing to the gener-

Joella has already under-

gone dozens of operations for

her condition, called exom-

phallus ectopia vesicae and

It meant that her bladder

and intestines were outside of

her body, there was no abdom-

inal wall and she had

hemi-bladder.

curity on the estate. There are Pinochet will share with his al's hospital stay or legal bills. dangers to democracy that this However, Michael Prideaux. case is posing. director of consumer affairs,

said that some "external" directors of its subsidiary, Chile Tobaccos SA, were helping. "Chile Tobaccos is the biggest cigarette manufacturfore his notorious client could er in the country and we own 70 per cent of it," he said. "The

However the general's sup- other 30 per cent is representtheir support for General

"BAT is not contributing financially to his medical treatment or his legal bills. Our opinion, however, is that it would be a great shame if all this grandstanding undermined democracy in Chile."

It is understood television advertisements – possibly paid - are running in Chile, asking his supporters to make dona-Pinochet and pointing out the tions to a numbered account. he should be kept in dignified say about their new neighbour.

general is apparently not short — an old man." of friends. This weekend the

columnist Taki Theodoracopulos said he and Robin Birley, stepson of the late Sir James Goldsmith, had been trying to arrange somewhere for the dictator to live.

"We found one house but the police said it was too far from the M25," Mr Theodoracopulos said. "We are simply concerned that if he is detained in Britain

Despite his notoriety, the circumstances. After all, he is Mr Theodoracopulos yes-

terday declined to comment on whether he or others were involved in paying for the Virginia Waters property. "He has said all he wanted to at the weekend," said his secretary.

However, as the residents of the Wentworth Estate returned home last, the one certainty was that in the coming days

Girl christened as boy wins right to new birth certificate

BY GARY ENN

A GIRL who started life registered on her birth certificate as a boy has won an eight-year battle to be officially recognised as Ten-year-old Joella Holliday,

whose cause was championed by the late Princess of Wales, has convinced the Office of National Statistics to change her birth certificate, after a rare disfiguring illness caused her to be identified as a boy. Joella was born with a med-

ical condition affecting 1 in 150,000 and her chances of survival were thought to be slim. But after an operation at 17months, surgeons were able to help her lead life as a girl. Now the Statistics Office has

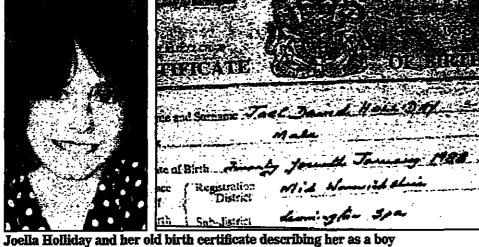
relented and has taken the unusual step of allowing a birth certificate gender entry to be This was after it was presented with a 47-page report

from medical experts and testimony from the chaplain who christened her Joel David. The family are planning a second christening in her village church in Pinchbeck, near

Spalding, Lincolnshire, before

Christmas. The ruling will not affect hundreds of transsexuals who want their gender officially changed, as the law does not allow them to change their birth certificates.





which the family believe is a first, came after a crusade by Joella's mother, Julia Farmer, 30, who gathered medical evidence about her daughter's birth. Mrs Farmer enlisted the help of the Princess of Wales in 1996, who sent the family messages of support.

Yesterday Joella's words on hearing the news were: "Does this mean that I can get married, mum?" Joella added: "It's really good. I can look forward to getting married. It means a

Mrs Farmer said: "There were that many obstacles in the way right down to us being refused legal aid that they must it and it would only have taken have thought we wouldn't carry : a 'no' and we were ready to go

The official change of sex, on It was our persistence that to the High Court." won out. When the letter came from our solicitors I couldn't open it. I just thought it was another delay.

> "But when I read the first few paragraphs I couldn't believe it. I stopped and went back to the beginning to check there wasn't a catch. "I don't think I will believe it an unformed phallus in two

until the birth certificate is in my hand. We are still waiting for a copy to arrive. "I also feel annoyed that

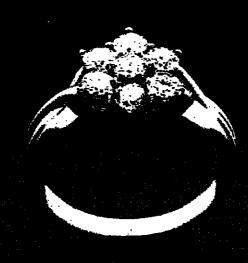
and they can only tell us in a let-We knew the Office of Na-

The Office of National Statistics confirmed yesterday it would be issuing a new birth they put us through all this certificate for Joella. A spokesman said: "There

must have been an error at the time of registration and evitional Statistics was discussing dence would have had to have been supplied corroborating

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Ernest Jones

THE DIAMOND & WATCH SPECIALIST

Unemployment: Manufacturing output falling at sharpest rate for seven years as CBI claims fears are spreading

Gloom deepens as 1,700 jobs go

THE DEEPENING economic By NIGEL COPE downturn claimed another 1,700 jobs yesterday, increasing pressure on the Bank of England's monetary policy committee to cut interest rates again next week.

Courtaulds Textiles, a big supplier of clothing to Marks & Spencer, announced plans to cut 1,220 jobs at its Claremont Garments subsidiary, while the United Glass plant in St Helens, Merseyside, is to close with the loss of 450 jobs.

The news coincided with the nublication of a survey by the Chartered Institute of Purchasing Managers which showed manufacturing output falling at its sharpest rate for seven years. Separately, the Confederation of British Industry warned that the decline in business confidence has now spread from the manufacturing industry to the service sector

More positive news came from Peugeot, which said it was expanding UK production at its car factory at Ryton, Coventry, creating 900 jobs. The company estimated that the development could lead to the creation of a further 2,000 jobs at supply firms in the Midlands.

The job losses at Courtaulds Textiles come just two months after it acquired the struggling Claremont Garments business. The jobs will go at eight factories which are being closed. These include plants in Newton Aycliffe and Durham in the North-east: Shoreham-by-Sea, West Sussex; and Giltbrook and

Sandiacre in the East Midlands. The news is the latest in a string of redundancy announcements in the UK textile next year," said Mr Dyer.

sector. Last week Dewhirst, which makes men's shirts and ladies trousers for M&S, said it was cutting 600 jobs. William Baird, another M&S supplier, cut 477 job a week earlier.

The cuts follow a slump in consumer demand, the continued strength of the pound and a decline in sales at M&S which reported a 23 per cent fall in profits a month ago. M&S wants its suppliers to reduce the cost of the goods they make. With Britain's high labour costs, the companies are being forced to push supply to cheaper locations overseas.

However, Courtaulds Textiles denied the cuts related to M&S's plans to shift more manufacturing to cheaper overseas locations. Colin Dyer, its chief executive, said the closures were necessary to redress over-supply in the Claremont factories which make ladies casual wear, lingerie and formal wear for M&S.

The GMB trade union attacked Courtaulds for "assetstripping" and said it would be working to reverse the decision.

When Courtaulds bought loss-making Claremont Garments it ordered a review of its operations. The company said the cuts were in line with expectations and it will detail the costs in a trading statement next month. "Our intention in making these closures and the cost-cutting that comes with them, plus the other cost-cutting we've done ... is to restore the business to profitability for



James Hoten, who worked as a miner at Newstead colliery for 25 years, hopes the cash injection will bring life back to the village

Hopes rise in village where life is the pits

JUST a few years ago the wood- BY ANDREW BUNCOMBE en floors of the miners' welfare in Newstead echoed with the sound of ballroom dancing. Or if it wasn't dancing, it might be the jokes of a comedian booked for the night.

These days "the welfare". like the Nottinghamshire village, usually quiet. When Newstead colliery shut nine years ago, it killed off a way of life, if not the village itself. No jobs, no money, no dancing, no laughter.

Yesterday. Newstead and scores of other coal communities devastated by the rundown of the industry, were offered a lifeline when the Government AND SHELDON MILLER

the hardship faced by those

"(This) is a coordinated goverament response to combat the deprivation now faced by communities who once gave dedicated service to this country's coal industry," said the Deputy Prime Minister, John Prescott, announcing the plan in Peterlee, Co Durham.

In Newstead the money cannot come soon enough. Despite the best efforts of local councils and voluntary agencies, the village is a ghost. There announced it was spending is one combined general store £350m on regeneration. The and post office, a fish and chip money will go towards creating shop and a primary school, but jobs and housing and tackling that is about it. No doctor, no

playgroup, not a lot for the youngsters. If the unemployed miners are not in the councilfunded drop-in centre, they spend their time in the Station Hotel where they make a pint

of Shipston's bitter last the lunch-time session. "Newstead used to be a proper village. Nobody had to bother, everyone was happy, everyone had an open door. There used to be a great community spirit," recalled James

Hoten, drinking in the bar. 'Now there's nothing for people to do, so what is there to talk about? Children are the biggest problem, they are bored stiff. They don't understand how it used to be."

Indeed, it used to be very different. The colliery, which opened in 1874 just a mile from Council which runs a drop-in Newstead Abbey - the former home of Lord Byron - was once one of the most productive in the country.

For 15 years from 1957, Newstead produced more than a million tons of coal a year. In 1966 the men mining the Newstead seam produced more than one and a quarter million tons of coal - almost three times the national average. Since 1987 the colliery has

been still, silent and vandalised behind a high wire fence. "Just like people grieving

over the loss of a relative, villages like Newstead are still in bereavement over the loss of their pits." said Chris Kerr a development worker for the Nottinghamshire Rural Community

centre to help the unemployed. Sadly employment - partic-

ularly jobs that pay a decent

wage - is a commodity in short supply. "Nottingham has got more security guards than Fort Knox," said Neil Greatrex. president of the Union of Democratic Mineworkers. "Men who used to earn a decent wage of £500-a-week now have to take jobs paying no more than £2-an-hour. The effect of the closures on these commu-

nities has been devastating." Mr Prescott said the money will be spent over three years as part of a programme to tackle social and employment problems. A further £10m grant by the Department of Trade and In-

dustry for regeneration and de-

velopment will be split between England, Scotland and Wales.

A total of £750m will be spent on housing. £1.4bn on employment and training and 2000m on regeneration - figures welcomed by the Coalfield Communities Campaign, which represents 86 local councils in coalfield areas.

At Newstead, where there has been considerable effort on regeneration, they have plans for a £1m refurbishment of the beloved "welfare". While the building is still used by the line dancing group and for craft fairs, the locals hope investment could help set up a community cafe and return the building to its former glories. With help, the sound of laughter may yet return to Newstead.

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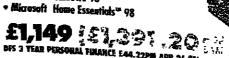
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المكذا من الاجل

The fine for indecency in church: £18.60

حكدًا من الاجل

BY CLARE GARNER

PETER TATCHELL, the gay rights campaigner, was found guilty of "indecent behaviour in a church" and fined £18.60 yesterday under an obscure ecdesiastical statute from 1860.

Mr Tatchell said he was grateful to have been blessed with "a magistrate with a sense of humour". He was given 28 days to pay the fine and the £320 costs of the case.

His protest during the Archbishop of Canterbury's sermon in Centerbury Cathedral last Easter Day was described as "puerile" by Michael Kelly, the Canterbury Stipendiary Magistrate, who concluded that while it was a breach of the Act it did not merit the maximum penalty of two months in jail.

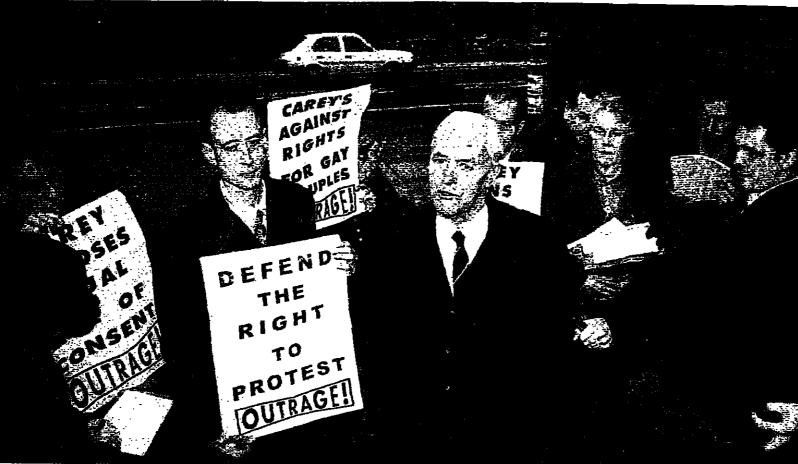
"It is always difficult to balance the right to protest and the right for uninterrupted services," said Mr Kelly. "Tm sure some people will have been disgusted and deeply offended by your conduct. Some, of course, may have applauded. But I expect that the vast majority will have regarded your conduct as an insignificant and transitory incident in the history of a great cathedral."

Mr Tatchell, the founder of gay pressure group OutRage!, took the microphone from Dr George Carey minutes into his sermon and started delivering his own message to the 2,000strong congregation. Six fellow protesters held up placards behind him, reinforcing the anger expressed by Mr Tatchell about Dr Carey's attitude to lesbians and homosexuals.

The law under which Mr has not been used for 30 years. makes it an offence to commit "riotous; violent or indecent behaviour" in any church build-

 $\gamma_{i,j} = (\sigma_i, \sigma_{i,j})$

on other



Peter Tatchell, who was convicted of "being indecent inside a church", with Labour MP Tony Benn, who appeared as a character witness

1551 which, as a first offence, banned any guilty party from church; cut off an ear for a secand offence; cut off the other ear for a third and, in the fourth in-

stance, branded his or her face. The veteran left-winger Tony Benn was called yesterday as a character witness for Mr Tatchell, whom he has known since 1981. He introduced himself as someone confirmed in Tatchell was convicted, which the Anglican faith, and proceeded to argue against the church's enjoyment of privileged protection against dissent. Mr Benn recalled an ing or burial ground. It has its occasion when the former

Runcie, attended a meeting in a parish church in his constituency of Chesterfield to answer questions from the congregation about church law. "It is difficult to distinguish between his [an Archbishop of Canterbury's] role as a cleric

and his role as a lawmaker - be-

cause he is both," he said. The Labour MP added that sometimes it is necessary to break the law to get it changed, as indeed he had done on two occasions. "The evolution of the law has been much shaped by acts that have been illegal," he said. "Conscience stands origins in the Brawling Act Archbishop of Canterbury Lord above the law because con-

man-made.'

Mr Tatchell said later it had been difficult to challenge the "sweeping and draconian" law. "It seems from his summing up that the magistrate felt obliged to convict me on the basis of case law." he said.

"I have been found guilty in a court of law, but I do not re-

science is God-made and law is gard myself as morally guilty of derisory fine but his behaviour any crime "

The Secular Society called for the Act under which he was prosecuted to be abolished. Supporters include the actress Vanessa Redgrave, the author Ludovic Kennedy and the pop star Jimmy Somerville.

The Conservative MP Sir Patrick Cormack said: "It is a

was thoroughly outrageous and

at least it has been recognised

that that was the case.' In July, the 10-yearly meeting of Anglican bishops from around the world voted to continue the ban on the ordination of gay clergy.

Tony Benn, Podium. Review, page 4

TATCHELL: BRAVE OR FOOLISH?



Ivan Massow, of Massow Financial Services, which provides advice for gays and lesbians: "He is one of the best crusaders for gay rights. He is hated by straights and almost as much by gays. We need people like Peter Tatchell to push these issues forward."

Matthew Parris, journalist: "Brave but misguided. I admire him. Every movement needs all types. Some of the women who threw themselves under carriages probably went about it the wrong way. I don't agree with his methods but it takes all types."





Paul Burston, gay editor of Time Out and author of Queen's Country: "I don't always hold with everything Peter does, but I think that the way this case has evolved is absurd - that the propriety of a church service is more important than the civil liberties of a group of people."

Simon Fanshawe, writer and broadcaster: "It puts me in a difficult position. I admire someone who gets off their tush and does something but I often think the things he does are so misguided, totally. Peter thinks to draw attention is enough, but it isn't."





Michael Cashman, actor and gay rights campaigner: "Peter is a heroic campaigner. No one can doubt his courage or conviction. I have reservations about the law under which he has been charged as it could ... prevent free speech and expression."

Angela Mason, executive director of Stonewall: "Peter has been campaigning for many years and he is very good at it. He also has great personal integrity. intellect and honesty. We don't always see eye to eye - but no one can doubt his ability as a campaigner."



Tatchell, self-declared martyr to gay cause

NEARLY-FOUR years ago, after BY KATHY MARKS "outing" the Bishop of London, Peter Tatchell declared that Yet there is no doubting his sin- London, the Right Rev David his ambition was to be impris- cerity and energy, nor, when you Hope, felt obliged to declare in oned for fighting for homosex- meet him, his personal charm. ual equality. "I want to be a martyr," he said.

Such statements - with their characteristic mix of zealotry and self-aggrandisement - have helped to make tion of 1983, when he lost a Mr Tatchell the most maddening figure in the gay rights movement, a source of irritation even to his fellow cam-

The decision to let him off founders of OutRage! a tiny but with a fine yesterday means that martyrdom remains a distant prospect.

No matter: he is probably already plotting his next move, another attention-grabbing stunt aimed at embarrassing a hypocritical **Establishment**

When it comes to opinions of Mr Tatchell, there is no middle ground. "You either love him or loathe him," said one gay campaigner yesterday. To his opponents, he is an exasperating and egotistical self-publicist, a loose cannon whose actions set back the cause of gay rights and make him an easy target for tabloid newspaper editors.

He is articulate, erudite and utterly committed.

He first came to public notice as Labour candidate at the disastrous Bermondsey by-elecpreviously rock-solid seat after vilification of his hard-left background and, at the time, suspected homosexuality.

In 1990 he was one of the noisy group that has been the vehicle for his flamboyant brand of confrontational politics. The group, set up in response to a sharp rise in homophobic murders, has been behind most of the provocative gay protests of recent years, such as "kiss-ins" in Piccadilly Circus, a "wedding" in Trafalgar Square and a "queer

crucifizion" outside Westminster Cathedral. It is for the tactics of "outing" Establishment figures that Mr Tatchell has been most bitterly criticised. In 1994 he and fellow activists named 10 Church of England bishops on banners brandished at a demon-

Synod meeting. The Bishop of 1995 that his sexuality was "a grey area" after Mr Tatchell wrote to him urging him to "out" himself. Mr Tatchell defends "outing" on the basis that he selects only those people whose public pronouncements on homosexuality are at

Mr Tatchell, born in 1952 in Melbourne, Australia, to evangelical Christian parents, came to England to avoid National Service, which would have led

He lives in a council flat in and articles.

school gates.

"He is disliked by a lot of gay al integrity."

odds with their private lives.

to a Vietnam draft.

south London and survives mainly on income from books Fellow campaigners salute

his courage while deploring unpopular actions that he has taken, such as handing out leaflets on homosexuality at

people because they don't like the image that he projects," said one yesterday. "But he is very likeable, and actually quite .shy, when you get to know him, and he has enormous person-

Badger cull 'is breach of treaty' By Linus Gregoriadis

WILDLIFE campaigners will

Southwark, south London, was remanded in custody accuse the Government today of breaching an international wildlife treaty by culling thousands of badgers.

The National Federation of Badger Groups is to use a meeting of the Berne Convention in Strasbourg to challenge the legitimacy of an experiment to examine the link between badgers and tuberculosis in cattle. They say the culling of an es-

timated 20,000 badgers, which began in north Devon this week and will end in 2002, is unnecessary and illegal. Elaine King, of the federa-

tion, told the standing committee of the Berne Convention, Europe's longest-standing wildlife treaty: "The Government is failing to meet its international obligations on wildlife protection ... The badger culling experiment is a breach of the convention."

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IN BRIEF

Girl killed by fumes in house A GIRL aged two and her mother's unborn child were

kiled by a gas leak at their home in Wandsworth, south London. Sue Woodford, 24, who was seven months pregnant, survived the leak with her son Ronnie, one. Laura Warwick, two, died from carbon monoxide fumes.

A TRAINEE psychiatric nurse, Elizabeth Bolariowa, 35, from

to appear before Tower Bridge magistrates next Tuesday, charged with murdering her five-month-old daughter, Yanisola Odetola, who died from head injuries.

Nurse on baby murder charge

Two more accused of cruelty TWO WOMEN have been charged with cruelty after allegations of neglect at a residential home for children and adults. The women, both aged 61, were arrested last week with two other women, aged 39 and 59, at the Old Convent in Bicknacre near Chelmsford, Essex.

Teenager injured while shopping

A TEENAGER who wears a pacemaker was last night in a critical condition in hospital after she was attacked by a woman during a shopping trip. Kelly Bristow, 18, was punched in the chest after a minor dispute in a clothes shop in Hammersmith, west London, on Saturday.

Attenborough wins book award

BRITAIN'S TOP environmental book prize has been won by Sir David Attenborough for The Life of Birds. The BP Natural World Book Prize was awarded yesterday by Michael Meacher, the Environment minister.

Children in Johannesburg were taking part in an Aids awareness rally as campaigners around the world were marking Aids Day yesterday. Every minute of the year 11 people contract the HIV virus Juda Ngwenya |Reuters

Minister tells of BSE 'thunderbolt'

THE FORMER agriculture minister William Waldegrave said vesterday that news of the link between mad cow disease, or BSE, and "new variant" CJD in humans, was "a thunderbolt" and "the worst moment" of his political career.

Yet he and other former Tory agriculture ministers, Angela Browning and Earl Howe, insisted to the BSE Inquiry that their prime interest had always been public health rather than that of the farming industry - and that the two were not mutually antagonistic.

"It's false to suggest there's a dichotomy between human health and protecting the farming industry," said Mr Walderave. "As we have seen after this disaster, the best way of protecting the farming industry was being tough on the human health issu

BY CHARLES ARTHUR Technology Editor

the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (Maff) in 1995 and 1996, and before that as a minister in the Department of Health, he had had "scares" not herald an epidemic. when it seemed that the Gov-But in March 1996, a memo ernment's repeated insistence that BSE could not pass to hu-

But ministers had no contingency plans for what to do if that happened, because the problem seemed neither large enough to qualify as a civil disaster - nor small enough to be easily solved by busy civil servants. The result was that no plans were made, despite mounting evidence that slaughterhouses were continuing to let potentially infected material pass into food.

"I was scared at one point because of the issue of CJD in

referring to November 1995 when a fourth case of "classic" CJD - which still has no known British farmer However, he was "very firmly advised" the case was a statistical fluke which did

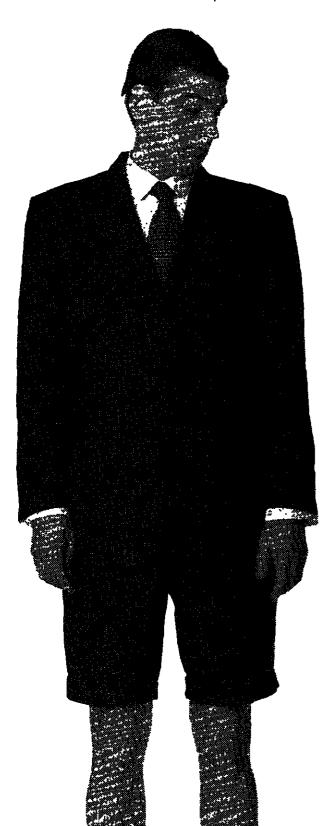
arrived detailing a link between BSE and nv-CJD. "This was the mans would turn out to be false. biggest emergency of my political career, the most difficult and important crisis which I have ever dealt with. There were a number of ways in one's nightmares one could have imagined this happening.

"But all through my period at the Ministry of Agriculture, it felt the opposite. It felt like the epidemic was disappearing slowly from animals, it was all turning out - thank God - as predicted. There was the flurry of alarm over the farmers.

farmers," Mr Waldegrave said. which went away. Then the thunderbolt came.

Agriculture ministers also came under repeated pressure cause - was discovered in a from the animal feedstuff companies to ease rules banning the recycling of cattle in animal feed. One delegation from the Agricultural Suppliers' Association suggested that the Government should just redefine recycled cattle remains as "safe" for use - despite the fact that such products first led to

the BSE epidemic. Of his role at the Department of Health, from 1990 to 1992, he defended saying then that beef was safe to eat. "If you want to know if it's safe to fly on an airplane, and as a minister I reply that it's been certified as airworthy. I'm then going to be asked 'Would you fly in it?' And the answer is yes, I would ... But if you say it's safe, you aren't saying there's no risk there."



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Put people, first, Short tells WWF

CLARE SHORT, the international development secretary. told a meeting of the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) yesterday that conservation efforts would be fruitless without a focus on poverty.

We cannot care for the planet without caring better for its people," Ms Short told a WWF conference on poverty and the environment. She welcomed the theme of the meeting. Ms Short criticised Western

hypocrisy on moves to protect the environment. "We are the major polluters of the planet and now we are demanding that the developing world does not add to the pollution." She noted that many in the aim.'

South were "deeply suspicious we [in the developed North] needed to secure our economic development, we are trying to pull the ladder up after us." She argued that environ-

mental damage was inevitable in poorer countries: "It's poor people who often have no alternative but to over-exploit, and by so doing degrade the local eco-system on which they depend in order to survive."

The speech marked Ms Short's main policy statement on the environment, entitled: Why the environment mat-

She has repeatedly tackled should pay more tax. sensitive questions, including war and famine in Sudan, where she argued that aid to the hungry was "unnecessary" because it lessened the pressure for a ceasefire.

Sudanese rebels' refusal to ticular advantage.

agree to a truce was an important reason why food was not getting through. Her statements were enor-

mously controversial, but many observers believe that they have been largely vindicated. and pressure for political change has had an important

She referred to the figure that has become her crusading leitmotif - the "key goal" of reducing by half the number of people living in abject poverty by 2015, saying: "You may ask, 'Why only half?" Because this is an affordable and achievable

The development secretary argued against "doom and gloom and endless denunciations", and said that people should move "from passing the buck to finding the solutions". She argued: "It is when people know a solution that they demand action."

Ms Short used to be regularly described as "gaffeprone". Even now, the theme occasionally returns. The Mirror newspaper published an article recently on "Clare's top 10 gaffes", which included her call in the 1980s for Page Three girls to be banned, and her statement in 1996 that the well-off

increasingly, however, her outspokenness has come to be seen as a strength. Where most politicians are perceived as spin-doctored, Ms Short is assumed to be speaking her Ms Short argued that the mind, which, in her job, is a par-

THE RIGHTS OF EVERY MAN

The Independent is publishing daily each of the 30 Articles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, illustrated by Ralph Steadman, to mark its 50th anniversary



Article 22

Everyone as a member of society has the right to social security and is entitled to realisation, through national effort and international co-operation and in accordance with organisation and resources of each state, of the economic, social and cultural rights indispensable for his dignity and the free development of his personality

pamphlet edition of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights is published by Waterstone's, price £1. Proceeds to the Medical Foundation for the Care of Victims of Torture.

in Britisele

leres the lights fish the Chancelise of the specification before the posture Thank luck on the day th Labour's ligh profit with humanes and anders correlessed into presentational materi

Store and speaking German Firmer Oskar Laiontaine, v nuling an incendia: British to the up the u Stroutes-Kaim, aske lacked Mr Lafentair respectively with one w

palitical problem. U cepte medu backia h is difficult to bel only 10 days aro. 20 mery beween Aritis cent socialist cons Europe, with Mr Born

the grant with a growth Swissered in the heat sels. With Mr Brew <u>troked into quari are</u> pure auth. Europe ो एक हैं जिस्सी हैं।

But throughout Mr हिन्द्रभग सक्त Mr 1 set the late for wh ron was a paper on commences are a commenced commences. Time Mr Brown dal and their the the preinstructing his speci sition to paper. The Company for market the l in a second containe in London : a poès unitative.

But at a finance recity in Amsse lowing day Mr I becomed the proposal. The Dally Mar St have and ran with geneed in and q whether his haten ine "most dangem Furnoe constructs in German kir gare Wiedlich Wednesd man Foreign Munist n. Fischer suggested i unter including a co repron army, bros cluding The Design

Exac becapingways n Transgious a to a range of different tan measures was i the media uct, rai VAT to income tax counts were to say! terpretative, but ha their effect on the G which has been

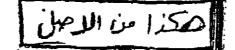
hackpedal. There are two problems for Mr B:

By KATHERINE B

THE CHANCELLO though! to be the fa coffee for duty fre performed a U-tur ministeriai collea day by amnouncing that he backed th ment of plans to a free shopping.

Britain's sudden a five-year delay. being canvassed man Chancellos Schroder, with str from the French ; was revealed in Independent, But snock news to c for duty free, led by and ferry compani Brown is now say: support a delay. The shift from May las us great hope," Hume, of the li Duty Free Confed

Mr Brown reve day he had in fac a delay in the abo free "all along" He stress he did not t false expectations



How Euro-sceptics cornered Brown

حكدًا من الملصل

BY STEPHEN CASTLE in Brussels

AS GORDON Brown began his Brussels press conference yesterday the lights flickered and the Chancellor of the Exchequer stumbled before reaching the podium. "Thank goodness there were no cameras," said Mr Brown. It was one of the Chancellor's few strokes of luck on the day that New Labour's high-profile love-in with Europe's new socialist leaders developed into another presentational nightmare.

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Just yards from where Mr Brown was speaking, the new German Finance Minister, Oskar Lafontaine, was busy making an incendiary call for Britain to give up its veto on tax policy. Within hours his French counterpart, Dominique Strauss-Kahn, asked if he backed Mr Lafontaine's ideas responded with one word: "Absolutely". All of which left Mr Brown facing a familiar British political problem: the Eurosceptic media backlash.

It is difficult to believe that, only 10 days ago, some were trumpeting a new dawn of harmony between Britain and the new socialist consensus in Europe, with Mr Brown wooing

Like all the best courtships it began with a gourmet dinner. In this case the location was the Swissotel in the heart of Brussels. With Mr Brown seated next to Mr Lafontaine, the festivities began. The ministers tucked into quail mousse with pine nuts, guinea fowl with chicory, followed by ice cream.

But throughout the dinner Mr Brown and Mr Lafontaine set the tone for what was to follow by disagreeing consistently. The issue under discussion was a paper prepared for the socialist group of finance ministers, which proposed the harmonisation of corporate tax rates. Mr Brown did not concur. and took the the precaution of instructing his special adviser, Ed Balls, to commit his opposition to paper. The Treasury probably knew the split was coming because the Chancellor had held a meeting with Mr Lafontaine in London and agreed a jobs initiative.

But at a finance ministers' meeting in Brussels the following day Mr Lafontaine backed the proposal, setting the stage for a new offensive by Eu-

rosceptic politicians and media The Daily Mail seized on the issue and ran with it. The Sun joined in and questioned whether Mr Lafontaine was the "most dangerous man in Europe", printing its suggestion in German for good measure. Whenlast Wednesday the German Foreign Minister, Joschka Fischer, suggested full political union, including a common European army, broadsheets including The Daily Telegraph gave prominence to the story.

Throughout a torrid 10 days a range of different European tax measures was thrown into the media pot, ranging from VAT to income tax. Some accounts were, to say the least, interpretative, but have still had their effect on the Government, which has been forced to

There are two immediate problems for Mr Brown, posed that London has difficulties

More tax



withhold 20 per cent tax on interest earned by European citizens who invest their savings in other EU counaffect financial services. 11.000 city jobs may be at stake.

9 November, but really

the EU for at least 15

years. Gordon Brown

confidently told BBC

these are 'completely

untrue' scare stories

Yes, but Britain may

put at £5bn a year. In

veto it. Estimated

the wake of the

onslaught from the

Eurosceptic press.

Britain's somewhat

ambivalent position

has hardened consid-

建配及 程序的语言

a hardy perennial in

lure foreign investors and film-makers to the UK. This 'luvvies' charter' may now be sacrificed on the ideoing 'harmful' tax competition

German Finance Minisannounced a bonfire ter Oskar Lafontaine's of tax incentives. The push against all sorts Chancellor was said to of 'unfair competition' among EU partners attack on 85 schemes including British help last week

The Government has Not yet... there is no signed up to a volunformal proposal to tary code clamping align corporate taxes but the idea is gaining deals' and tax breaks support on the contidesigned to attract nent where the averinward investment. In age business tax rate fact, a British minister, is around 40 per cent. Dawn Primarolo, This is definitely one to watch in the long chairs the EU working group on the issue.

THOSE EU MYTHS - AND OCCASIONAL TRUTHS **VAT** exemption Company tax



Corporate tax rates

will be set by the EU:

There is a suggestion

that a 'floor' should

stop countries under-

with preferential deals

that attract foreign

be constructed to

cutting each other

The suggestion is that the current zero-rating for items such as children's clothes, books and newspapers will be scrapped in an attempt to harmonise VAT on all goods state of the EU

*Euro taxman targets Daily Mail front page on 26 November. Mario Monti. EU tax credited with raising this particular spectre

Not quite... there is already a minimum standard rate for VAT across Europe on most goods. There are no immediate proposals to harmonise VAT further but the Eurocommitted to closer alignment eventually

Uniform



It is being suggested that even personal income tax levels will be set by the Brussels bureaucrats as part of their aim of generating economic uniformity across the whole of what they regard as

the Sun portrayal of

der gefährlichsten

Mann Europas'

No. The European

the measure out.

However, one Euro-

future, income of all

Lafontaine as possibly

ust as the Left achieves ascendancy in the EU. The reasons for this change of **的知识是是知识的思维 请在安安的**数据的数据。 Most famously on 25 'Blair ditches alliance November as part of of Left leaders' was

headline in the Daily

Telegraph yesterday.

two conservative pre-

miers in Europe, Jose

Maria Aznar, of Spain

TATO TESTION OF COME WAS ENDOUGHEST OF STATEMENT OF STATE

The swing to

the Right

The Prime Minister Is

pulled back from his

friendship with French

and German Socialists

reported to have

'the most dangerous man in Europe' or be jilting France and Germany for Spain oran Milab, brancer 途 ag s やまT call ヤー No-one knows, includ-Commission has ruled ing the government and the spin doctors have not yet pronounced. The story is did go drastically off based on a purported message last week by suggesting that, in the accord between Tony Blair and one of only



There will be a euro-Due to be abolished in June 1999, Germany is tax on babies. Details about the new scheme now more favourable to a five-year reprieve are unclear, but in a on duty free shopping. The British governvisitation reminiscent of the horrors visited on the Jews by Herod, ment is now backing moves which would firstborns of all Europrotect jobs, particupean families could be targeted

4. In The Independent yesterday. German concern over iob losses was reported to be dovetailing with the British and French

Yes. Seizing on anything that might strike readers the Government has U-turned and backed a five-year reprieve. This is seen as a low-risk diver-Sionary tactic which will probably get

concern for a reprieve

'Are German EU bosses going to charge our families £1.000 a child?" The Daily Mirror asked yesterday, in a frontpage riposte to the Sun's Lafontaine scare

Babies to cost

£1,000

No. The Mirror front page was in fact a spoof, but it did highlight the frenzy that is undoubtedly sweeping through the Mirror's rivals and the difficulty the Government still faces in putting island Britain at the heart of Europe

mission. The first is a move to reduce "harmful" tax competition, including the attempts by some countries, in particular Ireland but also Britain, to lure foreign investors with preferential corporate tax rates as low as 10 per cent. To combat this. the Commission has won agreement to a voluntary code

of conduct, Work on this is

chaired by the Treasury min-

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ister Dawn Primarolo. This seemed uncontroversial enough until presented by some newspapers as a "harmonisation" threat. Mr Brown now argues that one British measure highlighted in Ms Primarolo's report, tax breaks for the film industry, is defensible. monisation to push through its More problematic is a propos- package. That is partly beal for a withholding tax on savings, designed to combat the ferent tax bases in each of the problem of cross-border competition. German investors, for example, can avoid paying tax on interest in their bank accounts by crossing into Luxembourg and opening a non-resident account. These

measures will be easier when

a common currency is created Until this week British opposition to the measure - which the UK can veto - was based on the fact that it would hit London's lucrative Eurobond market by requiring a 20 per cent deduction on interest payments. That, the City of London argues, would drive the Eurobond trade out of London, threatening as many as 11,000 jobs. Mr Brown, in the new media climate, has hardened his opposition again, arguing

by the measures already pro- with the measure in principle posed by the European Com- because it fails to address the real problem, namely banking secrecy in Germany and Luxembourg.

There are further, longerterm moves towards harmonisation of corporate tax. and VAT, excise duties and energy taxes. Both these measures are on the agenda and cannot be avoided indefinitely. Next summer at the latest, Mr Brown will have to choose between wielding the veto and losing influence in Brussels, or backing down and fuelling the Eurosceptic frenzy.

The Commission has opted not to embrace further proposais but to try to use the new European consensus for harcause it knows that, with dif-15 EU nations, even comparing regimes is problematic. In any event Britain could veto any new package. But Mr Lafontaine is determined to keep up the political pressure.

Yesterday he called for harmonisation of the threshold. the base and the rates of corporate tax, and will pursue the issue through the socialist group of finance ministers. They will try to agree a position ahead of next year's European elections, again presenting Mr Brown with a dilemma. If he blocks this he will pay a political price with socialist colleagues; if he agrees, the Eurosceptic press will revolt.

Little wonder the Chancellor's entourage dislikes its outings to Brussels.

Mayor's warning, page 8

SUCCESS IS A DIRECT RESULT OF AMBITION. CONNECTIONS AND A REALLY GOOD TO-DO LIST.



Chancellor supports reprieve on duty free

BY KATHERINE BUTLER in Brussels

THE CHANCELLOR, Gordon Brown, who put what was thought to be the final nail in the coffin for duty free last April. performed a U-turn before his ministerial colleagues yesterday by announcing in Brussels that he backed the postponement of plans to abolish dutyfree shopping. Britain's sudden support for

a five-year delay, an idea now being canvassed by the German Chancellor, Gerhard Schröder, with strong support from the French government, was revealed in yesterday's Independent. But it came as shock news to campaigners for duty free, led by the airlines and ferry companies. "Gordon Brown is now saying he would support a delay. This is a major shift from May last and it gives us great hope," said John Hume, of the International Duty Free Confederation.

Mr Brown revealed yesterday he had, in fact, supported a delay in the abolition of duty free "all along". He took care to false expectations, but insisted move may have been directed rettes to continental rates.



Gordon Brown: Surprise

Britain had always indicated its support for deferring the date of abolition beyond June 1999. A sympathetic gesture for the thousands of ferry and airport workers who fear their jobs are at risk? Or a shrewd political manoeuvre aimed at making friends in Bonn and Paris?

Some commentators have linked Mr Brown's eleventhhour bid to save booze cruises to Calais and defend the right of package holidaymakers to stock up on cheap cigarettes, to the storm over EU tax har- the Chancellor to slash excise stress he did not want to raise monisation. The diversionary rates on wine, beer and ciga-

at gaining tabloid support at a time when Sun and Express readers have been bombarded with scare stories about alleged EU tax-raising threats.

To overturn the 1991 decision to abolish duty-free sales in June 1999 would take a unanimous decision of the 15 finance ministers - and the chances of this happening seem remote. Throwing its weight behind a popular issue, particularly one which will never happen, is a win-win move for the Government or even a cheap trick.

But it could happen. The balance has swung with the rise to power of Gerhard Schröder. He made duty-free retention an election issue. With Germany and France, and now Britain, on board for a delay of at least a few years, the chances of a qualified majority of finance ministers in favour of a reprieve have soared

Of course, if Britain would agree to abandon the national veto on taxation matters, then there would not be a problem in saving duty free. The ultimate popular move would be for

Carelessness with a photocopier endangers political lives

FOR SOME time I've struggled with hasty scrawl across the right hand ister responsible sets off into the the notion that Labour back- corner probably best conveys both arid terrain of a prepared reply benchers have to be spoon-fed if what it was and what it meant to about the future of the Western they are to be witty and incisive. Yes- them. "Labour's proposed interterday demonstrated that this im- ventions on Francis", it read, "Repression may be utterly misleading. covered from a photocopier. Tee though. The truth is far worse. Labour backbenchers have to be mention "Chortle!" and "Guffaw!!!". spoon-fed if they are to be dull and predictable.

Due to someone's carelessness the flap if you're rushed - Tory MPs were all holding the same document MP for Horsham and the shadow Chancellor got up to speak. The

Hee!!" "Tee Hee!!" indeed. Not to

There is a convention during oral questions to ministers that MPs do not take up the House's time by lawith a photocopier - and how easy boriously repeating what is already it is to leave that last sheet under written on the order paper. They simply get up and announce the number of their inquiry. "Question as Francis Maude, the Conservative Number Six, Madam Speaker," says Jeremy Corbyn, the Labour MP for Islington North, and the min-

Yesterday Opposition MPs, to their uncontained glee, were able to reverse this procedure. So, up gets the unsuspecting

Geraint Davies, the Labour MP for Croydon Central, to ask Mr Maude to give way. He is all eagerness. "Will the shadow Chancellor say whether he is in favour of Bank of England independence or against it? Yes or No?"

"Number Ten!" bellow the Tory al tice that the crib sheet is in gener- selves in a quandary. Francis

THE SKETCH



THOMAS SUTCLIFFE

circulation. Inexperienced backbenchers in unison, giving no- Labour goodie-goodies found them-

commanders, wallowing heavily as develop Number Eight on the list," he proceeds and armed only with he began affably, and when the enorlight and inaccurate weaponry. How alluring he must have looked through the cross-hairs of their torpedo: "He can't say he doesn't periscopes. But the sea-lanes had been mined with depth charges and already one of their comrades had gone down, leaving only a greasy swell behind him.

Set course in the wrong direction and "Boom!" the Opposition would

Only Dale Campbell-Savours, had worked out a tactic to get robust," said one MP plaintively, opinion mill.

mous splash of Tory hilarity had finally subsided, he released his been given notice."

Not all MPs need their questions typed out for them. Earlier, MPs on both sides tried to press Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, to declare that it was now policy to terexplode again in mocking laughter. minate President Saddam

Maude is a temptingly easy target for ambitious backbench submarine round the problem – by deliberate clearly longing for the moment detonation. "Perhaps I can further when the boys from Hereford would be asked to "aid the opposition".

Mr Cook simply reiterated government determination to make Iraq comply with UN resolutions at which point he was hit from beknow the answer, because he's hind by a low-flying dove. "What would be the point of bombing Baghdad, a city of four-and a-halfmillion people which has only two ambulances?" asked Tam Dalyell, the Labour MP for Linlithgow.

Judging from the asperity of Mr Hussein's political career with ex- Cook's reply this intervention had the Labour MP for Workington, treme prejudice. "Can't we be more not passed through the Millbank

Lord

Mayor's

warning

on tax

By SARAH SCHAEFER

EU HARMONISATION

PLANS TO harmonise the withholding tax on savings income

across the European Union

would be "highly damaging" to

its standing in the world finan-

cial markets and could drive

business offshore, the Lord

Mayor of London, Lord Levene of Portsoken, said yesterday.

But Lord Levene, a cross-

bencher and chairman of

Bankers Trust International

praised the Government for its

determination to veto a draft di-

rective, which would apply

across the EU to savings income

and to the eurobond market.

"The rules for the single market

must be drawn up so that Eu-

rope's financial business gen-

erally is not driven offshore and

In the Lords, he urged the

Commission and the EU presidency to "seek worldwide agree-

ment on such changes first...

That is the only way to avoid the

they would otherwise bring."

He added that the City Cor-

poration would be introducing

outside Europe altogether."

Frank Field had to go, says Byers

FRANK FIELD "is probably no longer a minister" because he opposed government measures such as the Working Family Tax Credit. Stephen Byers, the Chief Secretary to the Treasury,

said yesterday. Rebuking the former welfare reform minister. Mr Byers stressed during resumed debate on the Queen's Speech that Mr Field was "wrong" in his criticism of the scheme.

Mr Field, who was due to give a speech on welfare reform last night, resigned in the summer over the Govern- at European level that will ment's refusal to introduce threaten jobs or the competitive compulsory second pensions.

Opening the debate, Francis Maude, the shadow Chancellor. sabotaged attempts by Labour backbenchers to disrupt his speech when he produced a list of questions, headed "suggested interventions" allegedly issued to them. Mr Maude said the list, which was recovered from a Westminster photocopier, was another example of Tony Blair's administration being "control freaks".

The list included a series of

Europe was "a non-starter". BY SARAH SCHAEFER We would simply not allow Political Reporter corporation tax rates to be Tory policy. "I fear Labour raised to the existing levels of backbenchers are trying to insome other countries." gratiate themselves with the

But Mr Maude said that control-freak tendency by ask-Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, ing prepared questions," said had failed to protect personal taxes from being co-ordinated During his speech, Mr Byers through the EU. "There is a dismissed "scaremongering" clear commitment in Labour policy documents to taking on European Union tax harfurther a process of tax comonisation, saying: "This Government has made it clear that ordination and harmonisation we will not support any action which can only have the effect of increasing Britain's taxes to continental levels," he said.

harmonisation of rates across

position of British business. So Malcolm Bruce, for the Libany tax proposals will need to eral Democrats, said his party pass that acid test." He added:
"If necessary, at the end of the was disappointed that there were no measures in the day, we will be prepared to use Queen's Speech "to pave the our veto in order to protect the way towards joining a sucnational interest.' cessful single currency".

He made clear there were He continued: "I do not think "no detailed proposals" to an undertaking of this importance can be secured on a wing change existing rates of VAT and said that, if there were, the and a prayer. It requires a Government would stick by its strategy and practical action to manifesto commitment to safeenable it to happen... We need guard zero-rated goods. leadership. We need a timetable. We need a strategy. On business taxes, Mr Byers

"NICKY LETS YOU BE ANYONE YOU WANT

TO BE THIS CHRISTMAS."

I found Nicky Clarke's Flexi-Stylers so easy to use, letting me hang loose, get tight or be anyone

I want to be. Unlike ordinary electric curlers. Nicky's Flexi-Stylers are long and flexible giving

me more room to create perfect curls and waves. Nicky Clarke Hairomatherapy Style and

Shine Serum gives me long-lasting style and unbeatable shine. A free trial size comes with

your set of Flexi-Stylers. Nicky Clarke Hairomatherapy. The essence of beautiful hair.

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HAIRGMATHERAPY PRODUCTS ARE AVAILABLE AT BOOTS, SUPERDRUC AND ALL LEADING GROCERY. CHEMIST AND GRUC RETAILERS



centre the best and most effi-Members of the Campaign for Leasehold Reform holding a mass rally outside the House of Commons in cient local government ... any-

Cross-party group aims to liberalise law on abortion

A CROSS-PARTY group of MPs BALLOT OF MPS will be lining up tomorrow to introduce a backbench Bill to liberalise the abortion laws to enable doctors to offer women abortion on demand.

More than 60 MPs are hopng to pack the ballot of MPs to introduce a pro-abortion Bill. If it is taken up by an MP in the first six places in the bal-

lot, the storm over abortion could rival the disputes this year over banning fox hunting. MPs whose names are pulled out of a hat in a Commons committee room, will be

inundated with proposals for

BY COLIN BROWN

Chief Political Correspondent However, the failure of the Bill to ban fox hunting showed only non-controversial measures, often handed out by the Gov-

of reaching the Statute Book. Campaigners against blood sports are likely to delay their bid for a second Bill to ban fox hunting until the Lords has been reformed.

ernment, stand any real hope

The "Voice for Choice" group, led by Gareth Thomas, the Labour MP for Harrow West, tabled a Commons mothe Liberal Democrat Jenny Tonge. Supporting the Voice for Choice campaign, they said doctors with an ethical objection to abortion should be obliged to declare it and that abortion should be available throughout the UK on the request of a woman in the first 14

weeks of pregnancy.

But they are fiercely opposed by the cross-party Pro-Life group of MPs, who include Ann Widdecombe, the Tory spokeswoman on health, and

sary of the Abortion Act, with frontbench spokesman on the backing of 67 MPs, includsport. A counter-motion by the ing the Tory Crispin Blunt and group, led by Joe Benton, the Labour MP for Bootle, warned against liberalising the abortion laws. It claimed many young doctors have had their careers in gynaecology destroyed because of their objections to abortion.

tion to mark the 30th anniver- Tom Pendry, the former Labour

It condemned the call to make it mandatory for all doctors with a conscientious objection to abortion to register their views, claiming it would strengthen the legal framework for a witch-hunt against

Cook rejects bombing claim

THE FOREIGN Secretary. Robin Cook, angrily rejected claims by a Labour MP yesterday that air strikes on Baghdad would involve "Dresdenstyle" carpet bombing.

Tam Dalyell, MP for Linlithgow, said that any attack on the Iraqi capital could lead to dire consequences because of its lack of emergency services.

Mr Dalyell, a veteran opponent of Western military action against Presidesnt Saddam Hussein, clashed with Mr Cook during Foreign Office Question Time in the Commons. He

BY PAUL WAUGH Political Correspondent

said he was disturbed by repeated government warnings that it would strike against Iraq if there were any further

of the country's weapons sites. "What would be the objective of bombing Baghdad - a city of 4.5 million people with two ambulances, neither of which has oxygen, and a fire engine that doesn't work, possibly - Dresden, perhaps?" Mr Dalyell said.

whether full-scale research

prevention should be carried

Commission is investigating

complaints of unfair trading

on steel products coming from the countries of India.

South Africa and Yugoslavia,

said the Trade and Industry

minister Lord Sainsbury of

Iran, Taiwan, Bulgaria,

into sleep loss or sleep

out, said the Transport

Trade inquiry

THE EUROPEAN

minister Glenda Jackson,

delays over the UN inspection

would not expect me to disclose specific targeting plans" and withstood jeers from Tory MPs as he rejected further interventions from Mr Dalyell

"The plans we developed take very careful account of the need to minimise, as far as possible, casualties and particularly civilian casualties," he said. "There is therefore no question of bombing Baghdad on the scale that you suggest."

Mr Cook said under a UN UK, Saddam could export \$10bn of oil to pay for the import of food, medicines and humanitarian goods. "There is, of course, absolutely no sanction to prevent Iraq importing all the ambu-

"If he is that short of ambulances, we would be delighted to consider through the sanctions committee how many ambulances he needs, if he would choose to put them on the list he submits in place of some of the other claims for humanitarian goods he has made, such resolution pioneered by the as glass ashtrays, cigarettes, alcohol and plastic surgery."

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

New Deal costs

THE GOVERNMENT has spent nearly £12m on promoting the New Deal programme for the jobless, the Employment minister Andrew Smith disclosed in a written reply, adding that the New Deal information line and website had received almost 150,000 responses.

Sleep study

THE GOVERNMENT has launched a pilot study into the effects of aircraft noise on people's sleep to determine

Dictator warning

ANY "PINOCHETS of the future" should note Britain was committed to the International Criminal Court, the Foreign Office minister Tony Lloyd said. That the UK had agreed on Monday to ratify creation of the court sent "a strong signal to the Pinochets of

the future", Mr Lloyd said. Today's business

IN THE Commons: 9.30am. Backbench debates on compensation for vaccine damaged people, economic problems facing seaside holiday towns, aid for children

THE HOUSE



in Burundi. 2.30pm: Northern Ireland questions, questions to the Prime Minister, European parliamentary elections Bill, short debate on future of Harefield hospital. Lords 2.30pm: Queen's Speech debate, last day, on

health and home affairs.

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BY CHRIS HAMILTON

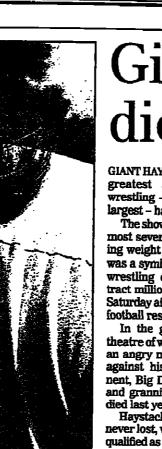
Sea resort sells

sand to Arabs

and should stop before the tourist industry is ruined. A Liberal Democrat coun-

the Seventies, Red Rum, exercillor, John Pugh, said: "The cised on the seven-mile beach at vast amount of sand extracted over the past decade correlates Southport, Merseyside, and thousands of tourists use it with the spread of mud and grasses... No one is sure about the cause and while there is an element of uncertainty surely it would be better not to risk further extraction."

Peter Swarbrick, a council spokesman, dismissed Mr Pugh's claims as "rubbish. The effects... have been going on for hundreds of years," he said. "Added to that, the whole beach area has risen six feet over 40 years, which is a huge amount



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The 50-stone wrestler Giant Haystacks (right), who has died of cancer, and Big Daddy, his long-time opponent, who died last year

Giant Haystacks dies from cancer

GIANT HAYSTACKS, one of the BY JACK O'SULLIVAN greatest stars of British wrestling - and certainly its

largest - has died of cancer. The showman, who stood almost seven foot, with a fighting weight of about 50 stone, was a symbol of an age when wrestling on ITV would attract millions of viewers on a Saturday afternoon before the football results.

In the good guy/bad guy theatre of wrestling he played an angry mountain of a man against his long-time opponent, Big Daddy, the kiddies' and grannies' favourite, who

Haystacks, 52, who said he never lost, would often be disqualified as his fights dissolved in uproar, while Kent Walton, the commentator, shouted hysterically. He dominated the ring from the moment of his slow entry, squeezing his bulk between the ropes.

But he was no great technician: the intricacies of the half-nelson. Boston crab and

never the hallmark of a wrestler who relied on his bulk. Mick McManus, his onetime tag partner, said: "He preferred to pick a fella up, body-slam him on to the canvas and then dive on top of him. The chances of someone getting up were remote."

McManus, who retired in 1981, said Haystacks, real name Martin Ruane, was different in private. "He was quiet-spoken and he did not get perturbed outside the ring." A devout Roman Catholic from a Manchester Irish family, he refused to fight on Sundays.

Simon Garfield, author of The Wrestling, said he had a sense of humour. "He appreciated the ludicrousness of his size and in his occasional grudge tag matches with Big Daddy he would be paired with a tiny man and his opponent would also be tiny, adding to the comic effect as a man

would run through Haystacks' legs and he would look dumbfounded. "However," Garfield added, "Haystacks had his aggressive side. He said that wrestling was the only way he could get out all his pent-up anger without being arrested."

Haystacks was aggrieved when his sport was killed off by ITV's decision to take it off the air in 1988 because it was considered too downmarket for advertisers. So upset was Haystacks that he said, but for the law, he would have killed Greg Dyke, the executive responsible for the decision.

He continued to fight but the pay was sometimes just £60 an appearance. Two years ago he was stricken with cancer just after signing a contract to revive his career in the US with his Hollywood friend Hulk

Giant Haystacks was at his Manchester home with his wife and childhood sweetheart, Rita, when he died on Sunday.

Pro-lifers call for boycott of Boots

ANTI-ABORTION campaigners were calling for a boycott of Boots the chemist last night after the high street chain announced it was opening a family planning clinic in one of its Glasgow stores.

Family values campaigners and the Roman Catholic Church in Scotland reacted angrily to the proposed pilot lerie Richies, of Family and Youth Concern, said parents would be appalled that Boots, "thought of as an eminently sensible organisation", should be sending the signal to children: "Go out and have sex."

"This is abuse of children, not family planning," she said. The scheme marks the first time in Britain family planning has been taken out of doctors' surgeries or specialist clinics and into a high street store. The twice-weekly clinic will be run in a private room at Boots' store in Glasgow's St Enoch's Centre, a busy shopping precinct. The service will be widely advertised in nightchubs, bars and university unions and there will also be an informa-

tion point on the shop floor. Both Boots and the Greater Glasgow Community and Mental Health Services NHS Trust strenuously deny that the move would encourage under-age sex. By making advice more accessible, they say they hope to reduce the number of teenage pregnancies. Since 1993, the number of pregnancies among 13 to 19-year-olds in Greater Glasgow has fallen from 1,916 to 1,724 per year. However, the number of 13 to 15-year-olds who became pregnant in-

creased from 102 to 169. Anne Marie McKay, director

A SEASIDE resort is in danger

of losing its beach because the

council is selling off too much sand, it was claimed yesterday.

every year. But a dispute has bro-

ken out over extraction of the

sand, which is sold for glass-

making, foundries, pipe lining

and aggregates and has even

The legendary race horse of

By GLENDA COOPER AND STEPHEN GOODWIN Scotland Correspondent

ple who were sexually active or thinking about having sex often felt "intimidated" by ordinary services. There is no minimum age for those seeking advice, but the decision on whether to give out contraceptives will be

A trust spokeswoman said: "Individual clinicians have to take a decision on the maturity of the person they are seeing. It is certainly not pills on demand, however young."

Early findings from a study by the research unit for health and behavioural change at the University of Edinburgh show 31 per cent of 15-year-old boys in Scotland have had sex, compared with 37 per cent in 1994. The figure for girls remained constant at 36 per cent.

The survey of 2,500 Scottish 15-year-olds indicated school sex education was effective in providing information about the threat of Aids and other sexually transmitted infections but embarrassment was still stiffing conversation at home about sex and relationships.

The initiative was announced on the same day as a survey showing teenagers in Britain fear pregnancy more than catching HIV and see condoms as a nuisance. Widespread ignorance about sexually transmitted diseases means that one in six young people thought wrongly that treatment for carriers of the Aids virus could stop them

being infectious. A survey by the Brook Advisory Centres, the sex advice charity, found that teenage boys of the Family Planning Associ- in particular were promiscuous ation Scotland, said young peo- and willing to take risks.



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Councils plan will cripple poorest areas'

TOUGH NEW powers to deter councils from imposing big tax rises will be unveiled by the Government today amid fears by Labour MPs that the move will cripple Britain's poorest

The policy of penalising authorities that propose large rises will be unveiled by John Prescott when he announces the annual local government settlement in the Commons. The Independent understands the Deputy Prime Minister will announce a £2.3bn funding package to keep tax rises down to 4.5 per cent, equivalent to £30 for an average home. But he will also insist there will be no return to the days of "tax and spend" of profligate councils and will announce a new power to deter large rises.

Council tax benefit subsidy will be withheld from town halls that raise bills above guideline levels drawn up by Whitehall. The subsidy is worth millions to local authorities and is vital for

Political Correspondent

The Government's determination to control council spending, which at £50bn makes up a quarter of all public spending. was shown yesterday with publication of the Local Government Bill. It abolishes universal capping of town hall budgets, but Mr Prescott will retain reserve powers to cap the worst offenders - measures that critics of the new penalties have dubbed "capping through the

back door". Labour council leaders and MPs reacted with fury to the proposals, with some describ-"an attack on the poor".

Sir Jeremy Beecham, the Labour chairman of the Local Government Association, which represents all authorities would lodge strong protests with the Government.

"We are extremely unhappy Leeds, where up to 40 per cent as it hits the poorest authorities

matters worse. It further distorts the link between local spending decisions and council tax decisions. It is not capping but it is as good as and I suspect the hand of the Treasury

Yesterday Hilary Armstrong, the Local Government minister, said council taxpayers would not face "excessive" increases in their bills. "We don't believe there will be excessive council tax rises. I cannot imagine councils want to behave in a massively irresponsible way. But if they do we will have to in-

Paul Burstow, the Liberal

Democrat local government spokesman, said that if councils ignored the proposed benefit penalties, cities such as Liverpool could see a rise of £180 on their bills; Manchester would see a rise of £205 and Islington in England and Wales, said he a rise of £156 if the subsidy were withdrawn. "This really is another example of the Government's control freakery. It is incredible that a Labour gov-



of residents claim the benefit. hardest and is going to make the poorest in urban areas." Two rivals for the job of elected Mayor of London, Ken Livingstone and Jeffrey Archer, enjoying coffee and cake yesterday

SOMETIMES IT'S EASIER TO TALK TO SOMEONE YOU DON'T LIKE.



When you have a problem, it's the most natural thing in the world to want to talk it through with someone.

Sometimes, though, this creates another problem: who's the best person to confide in?

An obvious choice would be a close friend. But let's face it, we don't always choose our friends for their amazing powers of tact, diplomacy and discretion. Tell one person, and you may end up telling the world.

You may be lucky enough to be able to talk to someone in your family. Then again, you may be one of the large number of people who find talking to your nearest and dearest agonisingly embarrassing.

A girlfriend or boyfriend? If you can, great. But sometimes we don't want to expose our weaknesses to those who

And sometimes your relationship is

the very problem you want to discuss.

That's where The Samaritans can be useful. We're more discreet than your best mate, we'll listen as carefully as your girlfriend or boyfriend, and we're as sympathetic as your family. We're also non-judgemental, unshockable, and extremely experienced.

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And you don't have to be climbing up the walls before you call us - any kind of problem, big or small, is a good enough reason to pick up the phone. Call now. You'll find we're

remarkably easy to talk to.

The Samaritans We'll go through it with you.

Dispute over boundary 'led to libel'

A HIGH Court jury was asked BY CATHY GORDON yesterday to award damages to a former Labour councillor and his wife who claim they were the victims of a case of "boundary rage" that culminated in a bellous" letters about them.

Graham Rush, a market operator, and his wife, Barbara, of tional Kidmore End, near Reading, Berkshire, are suing Dagmar Coward, a teacher, over two letters she circulated on a "large scale" containing allegations of assault and lying to police.

The couple's counsel, Harry Boggis-Rolfe, told the court that Mrs Coward had allowed the boundary dispute to become an "obsession". He said that after Mr and Mrs Rush moved next door to Mrs Coward in 1989 trouble flared between them over "trivial matters".

In 1993 Mr and Mrs Rush got planning permission to build an extension. Mr Boggis-Rolfe said that after a "fracas" on 5 October 1994, as Mr Rush and his builder were attempting to

Coward went "completely out of control". She was later convicted of assaulting Mr and neighbour writing "grossly li- Mrs Rush by wiping her bloody hands on them and was sentenced to a one-year condidischarge. subsequent appeal against the

conviction was later dismissed. Mr Boggis-Rolfe said that in May 1996, Mrs Coward circulated two "highly damaging" letters containing "most dreadful"

allegations about the couple. In the first open letter she accused Mr Rush of assaulting her. She claimed he caused her wrongful arrest, prosecution and conviction by lying and also accused Mrs Rush of lying.

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in her second letter, Mrs Coward accused Mr Rush and his "accomplice" Mrs Rush of committing "criminal" acts against her.

Mrs Coward, now of Headington, Oxford, denies libel. The case continues today.



Philip Carvill with the detection aid

TV aid traces licence cheats

HUNDREDS OF television licence officers started patrols vesterday with new hand held machines that can detect magnetic radiation given off by sets

from a range of 100 feet. TV Licensing, which runs the system for the BBC, said it hoped the threat of the new technology would encourage the estimated 1.8 million licence evaders to buy a £97.50 colour licence in the run-up to

the Christmas viewing boom. The equipment is the result of three years' research. It can detect a switched on television whether it is receiving cable. terrestrial or satellite programmes and weighs only onetenth of earlier models, making it easier to sweep high-rise

blocks, for example. TV Licensing said it was

BY PAUL PEACHEY

likely to catch more dodgers than the 200,000 snared over the past six months. The maximum fine for evasion is £1,000.

Detector vans have also been fitted with new portable computers to check with a central database whether a householder has a licence.

TV Licensing said about 1,000 evaders were caught each day by its 400 officers even though at the end of September there were a record 22 million licence holders.

Simon Ablitt, director of field operations for the organisation, said: "This new equipment will be quicker and easier and more effective. If people don't heed the warnings, the number we catch will go up.

Young people feel 'trapped in limbo'

BY BARRIE CLEMENT Labour Editor

YOUNG PEOPLE in Britain and the rest of Europe feel trapped in a "protracted limbo" between childhood and adulthood, unable to take on responsibilities. Job insecurity and longer periods of education and training mean they find it hard to envisage a settled family life, according to a study of 18 to 30-year-olds.

The study, from the Work-Life Research Centre, says young people are aware a "job for life" is now an impossible dream, although they expect a reasonable amount of security and opportunities to develop their skills and employability.

An emerging "psychologi-cal contract" between the young and employers also involves an expectation on the part of workers that there will be flexible working hours to leave time for interests and obligations outside work

Respondents in Britain, the Republic of Ireland, Norway. Portugal and Sweden disliked the "long hours culture". That was particularly evident in the UK and Portugal.

Women's and men's expecations seem to be converging. Women in all groups expected employment to be part of their current and future lives and men said they hoped to share

Many women, however, said men's aspirations might not 20 to 24-year-olds

labour market and in particu-

lar the increase in insecure

work, whether perceived or ac-

from the state or employers to

combine work and family life

varied throughout the five

Expectations of support

tual, creates tensions.

bution to domestic life. The more educated men were more likely to say they wanted to participate fully in childcare, while young men in blue-collar jobs in all countries except Sweden tended to be less committed.

Attitudes to work-family arrangements were influenced both by family background and national policies. "Countries which provide childcare and parental leave are also those where young people have the most supportive views of working mothers and institutional

In all countries young women had high employment aspirations but, in countries with little childcare support, they were sceptical about the feasibility of combining motherhood and employment.

Job insecurity emerged as a main area of concern in all match their practical contri- five countries. "The changing

countries. Respondents in Britain held out little hope of much backing. The authors argued that the growth in temporary contracts could undermine policies aimed at supporting parents who want to combine work with a family. The researchers, from Man-

chester Metropolitan University and the Institute of Education, London, challenged employers and policy-makers to consider the implications of their findings. Uncertainties in young people's lives meant it might be difficult to find a committed and effective workforce.

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Most young people could not imagine a role for trade unions in reconciling jobs and domestic responsibilities. The report, however, said there was an opportunity for unions to invoive and support more young people by taking on board their



President Roman Herzog of Germany in the Queen's Coronation Coach at the start of a UK visit yesterday AF

Royal medical colleges just cosy clubs'

THE ROYAL medical colleges By GLENDA COOPER are "toothless tigers" and "cosy the public while in reality promoting the interests of their own members, says the president of the Royal College of to follow. Psychiatrists.

Robert Kendell warms the colleges they must take action to respond to a succession of scandals that have shaken public confidence in the medical

profession. Writing in the Psychiatric Bulletin, Professor Kendell says that while in the past the position of the colleges has been unassailable". recent events have exposed their limitations.

He says a series of scandals - including breast and cervical screening problems, alcoholic surgeons who were allowed to continuing operating and the "awful saga" of cardiac surgery in Bristol - revealed that all too often colleagues were aware of problems but did nothing to stop incompetent practitioners. "It has become clear ... that the colleges lack the power and perhaps the stomach to discipline those senior members of their fraternity who are no longer functioning competent-

He said that none of the scandals had so far involved psychiatry but that was probably because the nature of psychiatric practice does not lend itself to easy detection of incompetence and patients' lives are not put at immediate risk.

While the colleges see themselves as the guardians of standards, in reality once a doctor

Social Affairs Correspondent

is a member or a fellow all the college can do is issue guidelines that doctors do not have

"The fact is at present all the medical colleges are toothless tigers," the professor says. "Neither consultants nor their employers need pay any attention to the colleges' statements about clinical standards or minimum staffing levels if they do not want to. Even the ultimate and rarely used sanction of expulsion ... is little more than a symbolic gesture."

Professor Kendeli says the colleges face a "stark choice" and "time is not on our side". The first choice is to retreat into postgraduate training and abandon pretensions to guarding standards, in which case their prestige and influence would rapidly wane.

The other way would be to nail their colours to the mast over clinical standards. But in doing that "they would be committing themselves to criticising and indirectly imposing sanctions upon their own members and fellows" and risk alienating those they criticise.

However, Professor Kendell adds that while in the past the colleges have had it both ways, as "cosy clubs" and guardians of standards, this is no longer possible. "The colleges have to decide explicitly and publicly whether when a conflict arises they exist to further the interests of patients or doctors," he

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to record sections of calls and personal memos. The Motorota cd920. A mobile phone that gi



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MILLENNIUM BUG WATCH

THINK FOR a moment what you're actually going to do in the few days before and after the weekend beginning on 1 January 2000. Given that some people are predicting problems caused by the millennium bug, perhaps you have planned to fill up the car with petrol and withdraw some extra cash - or maybe all of it? Ever thought millions of other people will have had exactly the same thought?

That is the sort of scenario that already worries Jon Fullinwider, chief information officer for Los Angeles County, the largest county government in the world. "If everybody decides on the last week of 1999 to go out and fill his or her gas [petrol] tank, there isn't enough gas to do that. If everybody decides



they want to take \$500 from their ATM, there isn't enough cash," he said.

"If everybody wanted to go out and buy an extra supply of groceries, there aren't enough groceries. Our whole thing is supply and demand. We need to be careful that we manage this and we don't go into the hysteria."

So if you're going to panic. do it nice and early. And pay with your credit card. **CHARLES ARTHUR**

Convicted solicitors not struck off

AT LEAST SIX SOLICITORS COIL- BY IAN BURRELL icted of criminal offences have peen allowed to continue practhe Law Society. The solicitors had committed crimes including possessing child pornography assault and fraud, yet the Solicitors' Disciplinary Tribunal judged that they should not be truck off the rolls.

ficers expressed shock at the not struck off.

Home Affairs Correspondent

ising by the disciplinary arm of findings, which were made in a study of the results of the tribunal's latest 200 hearings.

The study, details of which will be broadcast in a Dispatches documentary on Channel 4 tomorrow, also found that 78 solicitors, found to have mis-Legal experts and police of- used their clients' money, were

fessor of law at the London School of Economics, said: "Td rather assumed, as I think most solicitors assume, that any improper handling of client monies will automatically lead

to you being struck off." Of the solicitors in the survey, 54 were making at least their second appearance before the tribunal and 39 had been fined at their previous appear-

21 of the 39 were fined again but not struck off." were still not struck off.

The survey will increase pressure for reform of the don solicitor, Terry Mitchell, way the legal profession is regulated.

Even Barrie Marsh, the president of the tribunal, was surprised by the findings. "I'm amazed by that," he said of one of the cases. "Criminal offences

hung for up to 12 months, has

gion since Roman times, and

strict rules govern the rearing

of the pigs and its sale, with the

consortium launching dozens of

legal actions a year to protect its

producers from foreign rivals.

The court refused the con-

been produced in the Parma re-

Among the cases featured in the survey was that of a Croywho was allowed to continue practising by the tribunal, despite having served a jail sentence for a building society fraud. He was eventually struck off after an appeal.

Other solicitors who have reinvolving dishonesty - I would cently been allowed to contin-

possession of child pornography earlier this year. Indira

it was said the conviction had almost driven her to suicide.

Macavoy, from Slough, Berk- Solicitors, which receives comshire, who was fined £1,500 for plaints about solicitors and decides whether they should be referred on to the tribunal, has Maharaj, a north London so- doubled in the past two years licitor, was convicted of an at- to about 40,000 complaints a tempted mortgage fraud last year. Less than 1 per cent of year, but was allowed by the tricomplaints are passed to the

The workload of the Office president of the Law Society, complaint was handled.

hearing.

Michael Zander QC, a pro- ance. The study revealed that be amazed if the solicitor was ue working include Patrick for the Supervision of said: "I think of the reputation of solicitors and it's bad for our reputation that our shop window body, the OSS, deals with complaints in the way that it

> Dispatches also reveals details of a Law Society study on the OSS. It found that half the bunal to keep practising after tribunal and receive a public 300 complainants gave the OSS a rating of between zero and Martin Mears, a former three out of ten for the way their

> > Libel

free

offer

BY IAN BURRELL

lawyer's

HARD-UP DEFAMATION vic-

tims will be able to call on the

services of the country's bestknown libel lawyers, Peter

Carter-Ruck and Partners, who

are offering to take on cases on

Until now, many people have

feared to challenge rich media

organisations because actions

are often long and costly. Mr

Carter-Ruck said he had been

a "no win, no fee" basis.

Parma ham can be sliced and packed in Britain, court rules

BY DARIUS SANAI

THE COURT of Appeal struck a blow yesterday for the democratisation of high-class food when it ruled that Asda could sell cut-price Parma ham sliced and packaged in this

In a move that should be welcomed by all aficionados of prosciutto con melone, the court ruled that the famously jealous Italian association of Parma ham producers had no right to stop the supermarket chain buying the ham in Italy and chopping and labelling the delicacy elsewhere.

"This is a victory not only for Asda, but also for the consumer." an Asda spokesman said. Its policy of buying in bulk in Italy made it possible to sell the ham cheaper than any of its competitors, he said. Asda celebrated by setting up a Parma ham stall outside the court in London and offering samples to passers-by.

The decision overturned what had been a victory for the Consorzio del Prosciutto di Parma earlier this year, when the High Court ruled that European Commission rules de**DISPUTES OVER NAMES**

Other products with controversial names: Elderflower champagne. Thorncroft Vineyard, a British producer of fizzy. fermented elderflower wine, lost its campaign to label its product Elderflower champagne in 1993 after the French Champagne Producers' Association went to the Court of Appeal. Sherry. Makers of Bristol Cream and other British "sherries" are no longer

Residents of the Somerset village of Cheddar Gorge were dismayed when in 1996 Brussels said cheddar cheese was so ubiquitous its origin could not be specified. Haute Provence wine. The wines of the Haute Provence vineyard in South Africa are labelled "Product of South Africa". French winemakers and allowed to use the name the European Union this after lawsuits in Spain led year forced the vineyard to a strict definition of to change its name, to who can put the label on Agusta, because its wines the drink. Sherry is made might be confused with in the Jerez region of those produced in France.

Spain; anything else is

fortified wine.

Cheddar cheese

producers from cashing in on regional specialities also applied to Asda's case.

In a porcine soundbite, Justin King, Asda's deputy trading director, gloated: "[The consortium's] argument that slicing and packing this ham in signed to prevent other the UK makes it in some way

less genuine took a real hammering in court."

The decision opens up the possibility of Asda's competitors following suit, leading to a general reduction in the price of a product that sells for about £12

The dry-cured, salty ham,



sortium leave to appeal to the ruled out, although Asda's case House of Lords, although it is different in that its ham is can still apply to the law lords made and cured in Parma. for that right. Given the deter-But some porcophiles will be mination with which the Italian

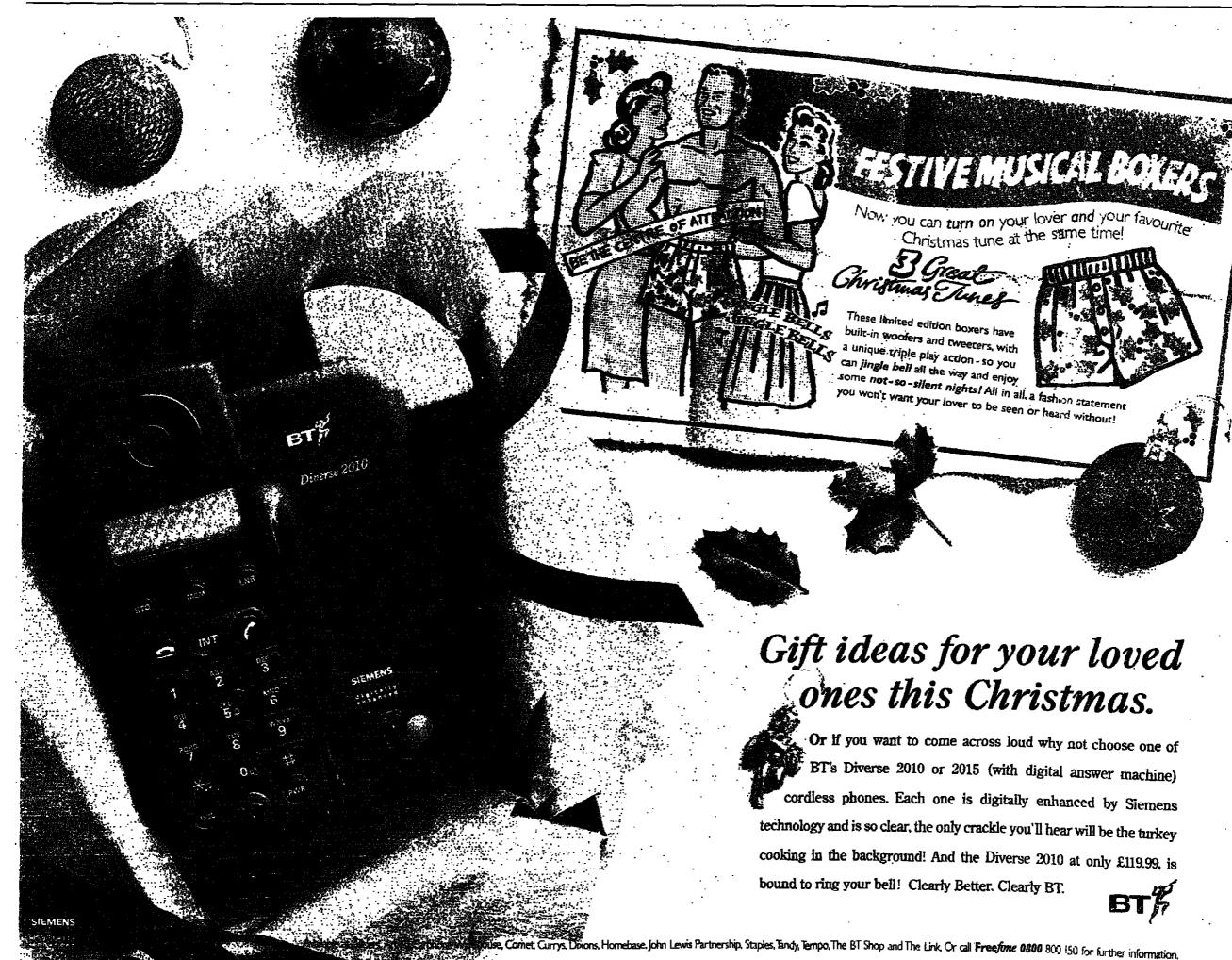
organisation has pursued pre-

unaffected by yesterday's decision. One school of continental tenders from France, Spain, gourmet thought holds that Germany and the United Parma ham has become over- but made from pigs fed on most useful to hard-up plaintiffs States, such a move cannot be commercialised and the real acorns instead of Parma's whey.

thing is the subtler, nuttier San Daniele ham from the hills of Alto-Adige, near the Austrian border. And for others, prosciutto is ham-fisted in its

campaigning for 30 years to make defamation actions more widely available. Such actions have always been outside the legal aid budget but the opportunity for fighting them emerged with the introduction of the Conditional Fee Agreement Order in

Under the terms of such an arrangement, clients would have to pay only the firm's professional fees if they won their case, with 25 per cent of any compensation. If the case is lost, the professional fees are waived, although the losing client would still be liable for the costs of the defending side. A Law Society spokesman said jamon serrano - similarly cured the arrangement would be with straightforward cases.



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1.2 Parties, age



A Muscovite holding a fish he just caught through the ice of the Moskva river in Moscow yesterday. In the background is Russia's government building AP/Alexander Zemlianichenko | were on course for agreement

Blair and Chirac in defence pact

A BLUEPRINT for a European- By Andrew Grice, wide defence policy is expected AND IMRE KARACS to be agreed by Tony Blair and Jacques Chirac at a two-day Anglo-French summit in St Malo tomorrow and Friday.

حكدًا من الملصل

The outline agreement could eventually allow the EU to take over responsibility for defence from the Western European Union, its fledging defence arm. Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary and George Robertson, the Secretary of State for Defence, meet their French counterparts in Paris today to pave the way for the two leaders' his-

toric agreement. The three-pronged "statement of principles" will cover: ensuring the EU punches its weight in the world on foreign and security policy, a new, effective decision-making process; and an enhanced defence capability. Last night British sources said the two countries

but admitted there were outstanding issues still to be resolved over the role of Nato. Britain is insisting that the new EU defence plans must not undermine Nato or create a "Nato mark two" but France has traditionally been more lukewarm about the organisation

Germany and France meanwhile found much to disagree over at their summit in Potsdam yesterday, but Britain again presented them with an opportunity to sound alike. This time, however, unlike previous instances of unity forged in the face of the common enemy, they outbid each other in singing Tony Blair's praises.

President Jacques Chirac had come to Potsdam deeply impressed by Downing Street's recent volte-face over the "Eu-

now, Britain wanted none of it, much to the chagrin of French leaders. But Mr Blair's en- ca's best France's Aerospe dorsement of the idea of a is also supposed to join broader European defence role within the West European Union gave France and Ger-

many something to celebrate. It also gave their leaders something to put in their joint declaration. "We shall seek ways to allow the European Union to have operational capabilities which it had lacked until now," they said.

But defence also highlighted the distance between Paris and Bonn, and the proximity of Britain to the Germans. Fed up with French prevarication, Chancellor Gerhard Schröder told President Chirac that the German defence industry was ready to forge closer ties with Britain's, and France risked missing the boat. The German

aeronautics giant Dasa is plan-

Aerospace to create a cor that cancompete with Aı Europe-wide alliance, bu application has been held u cause it is still partly contin by the government. Fr was told yesterday tha more delays will be allow:

Despite many brave wo the Franco-German axis also stuck on the key issu EU reform, needed to prej the community for its con expansion.

Germany says it want conclude Agenda 2000, th€ form blueprint, at a special summit it will organise un its presidency in March.

Meanwhile, the timeta for the EU's eastward largement is slipping. Not e the French President is a pared to name a date for new members' accession.

Ministers give Mugabe visit the brush-off

BRITAIN was preparing a By RUPERT CORNWELL chilly welcome and an equally sharp dressing down last night for President Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe, currently taking time away from his problemracked country for a private visit to London.

Normally, a foreign head of state and government visiting Britain, even at short notice. would expect to be received by the Prime Minister, or, at the very least, by the Foreign Sec-

This time, however, a request from the Zimbabwean side for a meeting drew nothing more than an offer of talks on Friday with Tony Lloyd, a leader, whom he is believed to Foreign Office minister.

Officially, the reason is the tight schedules of Tony Blair and Robin Cook, both busy portant parliamentary en-

Britain is signalling its disap- not cut aid to Zimbabwe. proval of Mr Mugabe's policies, and the plight they have brought upon his country.

would raise a host of concerns: about the growing social unrest in Zimbabwe, the peremptory expropriation of 841 mostly white-owned farms, humanrights abuses and the involvement of a reported 6,000 Zimbabwean troops in the civil war in the Democratic Republic of Congo, helping President Laurent Kabila to fend off a Tutsi uprising in the east.

Before arriving in Britain moreover, Mr Mugabe flouted United Nations sanctions by flying to Tripoli for talks with Muammar Gaddafi, the Libvan have asked for help in shoring up Zimbabwe's crumbling finances after a 50 per cent plunge in its currency against

However, Mr Lloyd told the Commons yesterday that, for all No less plainly, however, its complaints. Britain would

"Our assistance goes to the poorest people in Zimbabwe," he told Tory critics. "If you

Foreign Office officials con- think British project aid would firmed that, in the unlikely be replaced by Zimbabwean event that the meeting with Mr government assistance, you Lloyd went ahead, the minister are simply wrong." UK campaigns to indict Saddam

A WORLDWIDE campaign to BY PAUL WAUGH prosecute President Saddam Political Correspondent Hussein and 11 other Iraqi leaders on war crimes and

to Indict Iraqi War Criminals dad when he discovered the (Indict), which is backed by \$3m move last week. (£1.85m) from the United States Congress, vowed to use in- sador to the UN in Geneva, is ternational law to bring the one of 11 leading members of Iraqi regime to justice.

in New York, Paris and Moscow against humanity. over the next year, received President Bill Clinton as it was of Commons yesterday.

vealed it had already begun progenocide charges was ceedings against President launched in London yesterday. Saddam's half-brother, Barzan The International Campaign Al Tikriti, but he fled to Bagh-

Mr Tikriti, the Iraqi ambasthe Baathist regime named by Indict, which is based in Indict yesterday on its "want-London but will set up offices ed" list of those guilty of crimes

The group's chairwoman support from Tony Blair and Ann Clwyd MP said that as well as bringing proceedings itself, launched formally in the House the organisation would lead the drive for a special UN tri-The pressure group re-bunal to try the Iraqi President.

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lren playing near a barricade outside a church in Jakarta yesterday. There are fears of rising tit-for-tat nce in Indonesia after attacks on places of worship by both Christian and Muslim mobs Charles Dharapak | nationality. Since this stern in-

One Nation MP 'is not an Australian'

THE SOLE parliamentary representative of the Australian anti-immigration party, One Nation, may be unable to take up the seat she won two months ago because she is insufficiently Australian.

Heather Hill, originally from Britain but who has lived in Australia for 26 years, held dual citizenship at the time of the 3 October poll in Queensland. She now faces court action instigated by a Sydney businessman, Chuck Hong, who does not believe she is entitled to enter the legislature.

Article 44 of Australia's constitution states that candidates must take "reasonable steps" to ensure their allegiances are to their adopted country only. The Supreme Court disqualified two candidates in a 1992 byelection, one from Italy and one from Spain, because they had failed to renounce their former By JAKE LYNCH in Sydney

terpretation of the rules, parties have been more careful to ensure that candidates are in a position to claim that they are, as one senator put it, "Dinky-Di Australian".

Exactly who was entitled to this distinction was revived by One Nation's president, Pauline Hanson, its only member of the last parliament.

In her maiden speech in the House of Representatives, after the 1996 election, she stunned her fellow politicians when she said: "I believe we are in danger of being swamped by Asians. They have a different religion, a different culture and they do not assimilate."

Mr Hong came to Sydney from Malaysia 30 years ago, and now speaks with an irre-



Heather Hill are facing an election challenge

cent. At a news conference, yesterday, he said: "The rules apply to me and they apply to you and to all other Australians. That is the Australian

Mr Hong would have petitioned the court but he does not live in Queensland. So he persuaded Jimmy Sue, a Chineseborn Kung Fu grandmaster and teacher to put his name to the legal action.

There was a deadline of today for launching a legal

challenge to the election results. Mr Hong explained that he was stepping in where the National Party, the junior partner in the governing coalition. had stepped back, citing more important things on which to spend its money.

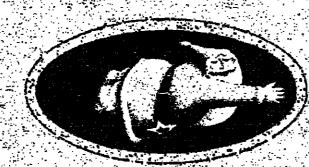
Ms Hill, interviewed at her Queensland home, pronounced herself "very hurt. I'm a very loval Australian," she said, and added that she had now renounced her British citizenship, although there was no recognition in the constitution of retrospective action.

A constitutional expert, Tony Blackshield, sketched out one intriguing scenario to the public broadcaster ABC. If Ms Hill were disqualified, there would be a recount of the Senate votes from Queensland. which works on a party list

system. The result would almost certainly be for the number two on One Nation's list to be elected. If the party wanted to secure its original choice of representative, the second person could resign the seat, and Ms Hill - or anyone else - could then be renominated by the Queensland parliament.

Sainsbury's gifts for kids. Buddhist monks' right (Hands off Dad.) Buddhist monks' right injures 40





monks' riot injures 40

IT SOUNDS like a scene from a By RICHARD LLOYD PARRY Bruce Lee film, or perhaps one of the wackier Monty Python episodes: rival gangs of martial arts monks beating up one another, throwing one another down the stairs and bombarding one another with potted plants, stones, petrol bombs and fire extinguishers. But this was the scene yesterday in Seoul, the South Korean capital, after 12 hours' fighting between members of the country's biggest Buddhist sect.

By the time it had died down at dawn, 40 people had been injured, some seriously, during the worst battle yet in a civil war

in the Chogye Temple. Late on Monday 2,000 monks of the Chogye sect gathered from all over the country to seize control of their administrative headquarters from 800 dissidents who occupied it three weeks ago.

Several thousand riot police ooked on as the attackers turned over a lorry and used a buildozer to clear a barricade of logs in front of the building. Shielding themselves with panels of wood, the attackers reached the first floor, but were beaten back by a rain of stones, petrol bombs, hoses and fire extinguishers. Elderly members of the temple's congregation attempting to separate and pacify the two sides came to blows with the monks, who shouted at them to go home.

The violence began last month after the sect's "executive chief", the Venerable Song Wol Ju, announced his intention to stand for re-election to the position. His opponents objected that this was against the rules: according to the sect's constitution, an incumbent abbot is not allowed to serve more than two terms, and the Venerable Song was proposing to stand for a third time. But his supporters say his first term, a six-month stint in the 1980s, did not count – after falling out with South Korea's hired to do their dirty work.

then military rulers, he fled the country, cutting short his tenure. In any case, the rule about a third term was passed only in 1994, after he had been elected for the second time.

On 11 November, the night before the election, a dissident group, the "Committee for Purification", stormed the headquarters, ejecting the Songist forces. The election was cancelled and the chief monk said he had changed his mind about standing.

But the occupation has continued despite an initial attempt to retake the temple a fortnight ago. "Those religious figures who are supposed to set good spiritual examples for ordinary people are only showing their vulgar humanity," wrote the Korea Times under the headline "Shame on Buddhist Monks!". "One cannot help but shake one's head in dismay on seeing the violence."

But there is a lot at stake in the leadership of the Chogve sect, founded on principles of meditation and contemplation 1,000 years ago during Korea's Koryo period

As head of the order the chief monk commands a budget of \$10m (£6.2m) a year; 1,700 appointments are his to make. The local monastic chiefs he chooses manage substantial properties owned by the order

The rival monks are proving themselves to be the stereotypical greedy monks," the Korea Times said. 'As [one] saying puts it. They are indifferent to the prayers to Buddha. They are only interested in the rice offered to Buddha'."

The dispute is bringing relief to a small corner of the economy ravaged by the Asian currency crisis. Hotels and restaurants near the temple are enjoying a boom with the patronage of the angry monks and hundreds of "bodyguards"

IN BRIEF

Russian doubts on death penalty

THE RUSSIAN government may rescind its pledge to ban capital punishment as it tries to combat the country's soaring lawlessness. Russia promised to scrap the death penalty in January 1996 when it joined the Council of Europe. The government says there have been no executions since August of that year.

Cuba brings back Christmas

CUBA'S RULING Communist Party proposed the permanent reinstatement of Christmas Day as a public holiday. It dropped the traditional holiday in 1969 during attempts to produce a record sugar harvest that season.

Joint mission to find Mars rocks

FRANCE AND the United States plan a joint mission to send a robot to Mars to examine the planet's structure and bring back rock samples, the French Education and Research Ministry said yesterday. The rocket would blast off in August 2005 from French Guiana, and reach its orbit around Mars in July 2006.

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Parti Québécois supporters react prematurely as initial results are posted at an election rally on Monday in Quebec

AP/Fred Chartrand

Poll setback for Quebec's separatists

A FURTHER period of constitutional uncertainty and possible confrontation was ushered in for all Canadians yesterday after the separatist Parti

The victory was less convincing than many had expected. While the Parti Québecois, led by Loucien Bouchard, maintained a powerful majority in the share of seats in the provincial assembly, it came slightly behind the opposition Liberal Party in the popular vote.

The mixed outcome means that Mr Bouchard is unlikely to proceed quickly to a snap referendum on the secession of Quebec from Canada. Had he achieved a landslide win, a new referendum - the last one, in 1995, ended with the separatists losing by a minuscule margin - could have come within months.

With all the ballots counted after Monday's election, the Parti Québécois won 75 of the assembly seats against 48 taken by the Liberal Party, headed by Jean Charest. But in the popular vote, the Liberals did much better than most polls had forecast, registering 43.62 per cent, just ahead of 42.94 for Mr Bouchard's party. BY DAVID USBORNE in Montreal

Mr Bouchard remains committed to achieving indepen-Québécois was re-elected to dence for Quebec and govern the province of Quebec. technically has the mandate to call a referendum at any time during the new five-year term of his government. Throughout the campaign, he pledged to seek a referendum only when be was sure of victory

> Mr Bouchard told his sunporters: "We will still assemble the winning conditions necessary for the sovereignty of Quebec. Our first priority is to advance Quebec and to push it further towards its destiny."

In the federal capital of Ottawa, the Canadian Prime Minister, Jean Chrétien, warned that he will be ready to fight any new attempt to gain independence by Mr Bouchard.

"When the time comes to defend Canada, we will be there every step of the way," he

Battle will be joined early when the provinces attempt in the new year to conclude a "social union" pact with Ottawa. The proposed arrangement, championed by Mr Bouchard, is designed to curtail federal government's ability to determine social spending in the provinces. Instead, the provinces take the federal cash but it as they pleased.

Regarded in Ottawa one more bid by the pro further to devolve power central government, the union negotiations are c to be fraught. If the propocial pact falls apart, it ma Mr Bouchard the p opportunity once more to Quebec nationalism.

Monday's Quebec r are being read as a sign th fervour for separation waned since 1995. Polls during the campaign indi that as many of 70 per c Quebecers were oppos the holding of another

endum on the subject. In his concession speed Charest said: "The re tonight reflect the fact the people of Quebec and a people of Canada wan country of ours to work as a success."

One surprise of the ele was the 11.8 per cent sho for the splinter Action De ratique, led by 28-yea Mario Dumont. His p which supports a stronger bec but not outright separa drained votes from both other parties but won only

Clinton impeachment hearings 'hijacked by extremists'

THE WHITE House and the committee considering the impeachment of President Bill Clinton locked horns again yesterday after the decision of the committee to extend its inquiry to the President's alleged involvement in illegal fundraising for the Democratic Party. The decision, which entails summonses for the head of the FBI, Louis Freeh, the

BY MARY DEJEVSKY in Washington

and the President himself, takes the proceedings well bevond the territory covered by the independent prosecutor's report into the Monica Lewin-

The White House spokesmove to broaden the investi-

had been "hijacked by extremists" whose only aim was to damage Mr Clinton.

"Despite all the protestations that this was a narrowly focused process looking at what was in the referral [Kenneth Starr's report on the Lewinsky affair], what it really is is a partisan process designed to damman, Joe Lockhart, said the age the President and ... investigate the President on Attorney-General, Janet Reno. gation showed the committee any subject that they see fit."

are potentially more dangerous to him - and could lead more directly to impeachment - than charges that he lied, even under oath, about his relationship with Ms Lewinsky. But a series of criminal and congressional inquiries hase so far turned up no

legations that the President

flouted rules on fund-raising

conclusive proof. Mr Lockhart's onslaught

chairman, Henry Hyde, had launched a withering attack of his own on Mr Clinton's replies yesterday's session were a forto the 81 questions on the Lewinsky affair set by his committee. Mr Hyde said that the answers, in which Mr Clinton had insisted that, while he did

To some legal specialists, al- about the extension of the im- had "made very clear he is and Barbara Battalino, a former a civil case, related to a six peachment inquiry came only going to stick with his reliance government psychologist, hours after the committee on bizarre technical definitions and legalistic defences".

The two chief witnesses at mer woman basketball coach. Pam Parsons, from Atlanta. who was convicted of perjury after admitting she lied under oath about a visit to a gay bar performing oral sex on a Vietwrong, he did nothing that was at a time when she was suing nam veteran in her charge. either illegal or impeachable, a magazine for defamation, The perjury, which happened in sonal reputations.

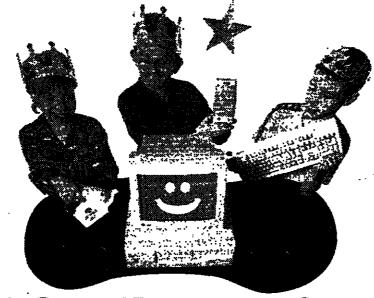
whose case has frequently been cited for its apparent parallels

Ms Battalino was convicted of obstruction of justice, fined and sentenced to six months' "home detention" after admitting she lied when she denied

act on federal property.

Under questioning committee members yes day, both women stressed to they had been justly punish and that perjury had "cot quences"

Both lost their jobs, andthey emphasised yesterda also lost their professiona cences to practise and their r



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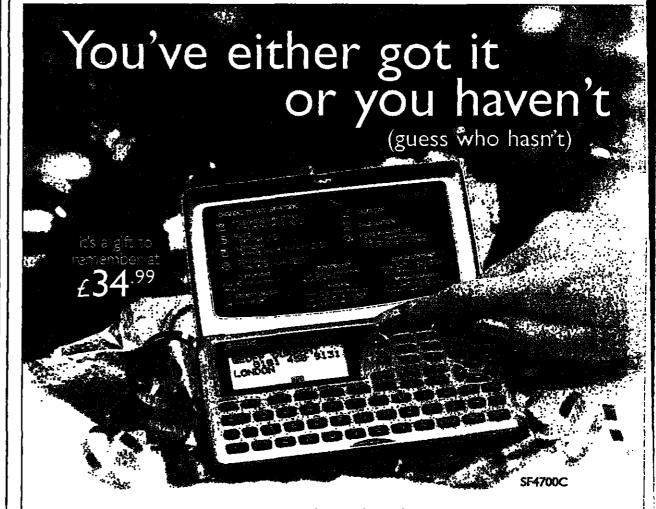
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lurricane experts dmit they failed

ich ended yesterday. strophic not only for the so who died and hunthousands who lost nes. It was a disaster /eather forecasters. season was kind of a call for us. We can do

er than we are doing." r Hugh Willoughby, ased director of the States Hurricane Re-Centre. Noting that ne Mitch's devastation used mostly by floods islides, not by its winds, d: "We focused on wind

to be an urgent new diaccording to leading ne expert William Gray, rado State University. predicts an equally bad

vow it's time for a new

n Miami – and top foreall agree on one thing: lew it. All predicted a

tropical storms, with six of them becoming hurricanes. In fact, 1998 saw 14 tropical

storms, of which nine grew to hurricane strength. More important, they included the most destructive hurricane in 200 years, Mitch, which killed at least 11,000 in Honduras, Nicaragua and the rest of Central America, left thousands more missing and destroyed hundreds of thousands of

"These deaths are not just numbers. They are real people, they are kids, moms and dads, and friends," said Jerry Jarrell, director of the National Hurricane Centre. "To say we did a great job sounds a bit hollow. We might have done more." He admitted that the traditional Villoughby, experts at method of forecasting hurri-ional Hurricane Centre canes - using the five-point Saffir-Simoson scale to meaat Colorado State Uni- sure wind speed - had proved woefully inadequate this year.

"The Saffir-Simpson scale was designed to give a visual

He suggested a feasibility study into a new system that would predict how much rain a hurricane would carry.

The experts admitted that they may have underestimated the effect of the so-called La Nma weather phenomenon - a cooling of tropical waters in the Pacific that affects air circulation around the world. Last year, when the opposite phemenon – El Nino, or warmer Pacific waters - prevailed, the number of hurricanes was

Mr Jarrell also implied that Third World communications problems may have played a role in the Honduran disaster. "In the initial warning we put out, we had a problem contacting Honduras," he said. Other experts conceded that

they had expected Hurricane Mitch to continue due west in late October, instead of swerving south to slam into Honduras and its Bay Islands. Referring to Hurricane

Georges, which battered the Florida Keys in late September

Jarrell said: "We will never know how close we came to a comparable [to Hurricane Mitch] disaster in Key West. We predicted Georges would be a category three hurricane. It hit land as a two but it could just as easily

have been a category four." He attacked what he said was the complacency of Florida Keys residents, 60 per cent of whom refused urgent warnings to evacuate, although he admitted that many had been afraid to flee across the only road out - a narrow two-lane, sea-level highway and causeways to mainland Florida.

The head of the National

Hurricane Centre also criticised ages by going out in hurricane force winds, clinging to lampposts or wading in floods. "This is the worst possible example we can set. Sooner or later, we're going to lose some of these reporters," Mr Jarrell said. Speaking to media representatives. he said: "If any of you or your or-



Key West residents fighting 90mph winds as Hurricane Georges hit the Florida coast in September

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However thirsty, water on tap is an alien concept

AMERICAN TIMES

CALIFORNIA

a southern Californian? Offer a drink of water. From the tap.

In a part of the world notoalcohol and caffeine, it is not too surprising, perhaps, that people like their water out of bottles. But this is not just about fads or dietary preferences. It borders on paranoia: offer a glass of tap water and you will not just get a polite re-

fusal, you will get a lecture. tastes awful," said one of our neighbours. "It is full of industrial effluent and you're poisoning your children with it," said another. "You can't clean-up. drink the water because the municipal pipes are full of lead and give you Alzheimer's disease," said yet another.

All this is very puzzling, since the Metropolitan Water District (MWD), which covers the six counties of southern California, actually has some of the cleanest, and tastiest, water in the country. In a competition between different public water supplies last year, it came out number one in a blind tasting test. Its quality is tested hundreds of thousands of times a year. But

nobody seems to know this. Affluent Californians drink bottled water because they think it is healthier and they prefer the neutral taste. Poor Californians drink bottled water because many are first or second-generation immigrants brought up in cultures - Latin American, especially that say you would be crazy to trust the municipal authorities to keep the water clean.

The result is that everyone spends a small fortune each week on bottles or giant coolers from one of the thriving private water concerns.

The bigger companies offer to deliver water to your door, and their salesmen spend considerable energy canvassing the unconverted in suburban neighbourhoods. Thus was I buttonholed by a man from Sparklett's, one of the most successful private companies, not least because its agents have a reputation for catching and overpowering daytime criminals.

I almost overwhelmed him with the news that I drank out of the tap. "You can't do that," he exclaimed. "Tap water contains a deadly bacteria called crypto." Crypto, it turns

WANT TO know how to shock out, is short for cryptosporidium, a genuinely unpleasant bug derived from animal faeces that can get riously wary of the ill-effects of washed into reservoirs. In Wisconsin a few years ago, an estimated 100,000 people became sick in a cryptosporidium outbreak. But southern California has never suffered

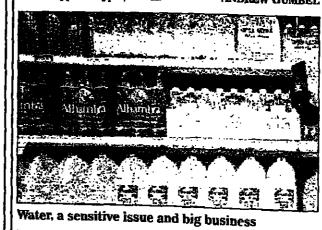
from it. There are more grounds for concern from industrial effluent. Trichloroethylene, a "How can you drink it? It potent factory cleanser, seeped into the groundwater of the San Fernando Valley at an alarming rate in the late Eighties, forcing a costly

> More recently, a chemical called MTBE, which is added to petrol to make it burn more cleanly, was found to be leaking into aquifers. Ammonium perchlorate, a rocket fuel component that can cause thyroid problems and cancer, has recently been discovered in Sacramento and in

parts of southern California But even in these cases the risk to public health has been far lower than the scaremongers have suggested. The ammonium perchlorate, for example, was found to exceed the provisional "maximum contaminant level" of 18 parts per billion. But this level was deliberately set extremely low It takes at least 3,000 parts per billion to trigger thyroid problems, and 200,000 parts per billion to induce risk of cancer.

Water is a sensitive subject in California at the best of times - Los Angeles stole most of its supply from upstate farmlands at the beginning of the century - and big private interests have often been happy to distort the issues. Discrediting the public water authorities is a timehonoured ploy of property developers seeking to minimise the effects their projects will have on groundwater levels.

That helps to explain why the bottling companies find customers so easily. "They feed on the public's phobias," said Lynne Plambeck, an environmentalist and former water board official "They are not required to do the testing that public water agencies are and are undoubtedly not as safe. But in a town that pays big bucks for a grande cofé lutte, is it any wonder we want to buy water as well?" ANDREW GUMBEL



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Imagine a world which gets

progressively cleaner.

Imagine a world where city planning actually improves the quality of people's lives.

Imagine a world where new forms of communications technology are more user-friendly.

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Every year, our construction companies manage over 100,000 sites around the world. Recent projects include the Stade de France on the outskirts of Paris, Cairo's new rapid transit system and the Vasco da Gama bridge in Lisbon.

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Business & City Editor, Jeremy Warner News desk: 0171-293 2636 Fax: 0171-293 2098 E-mail: IndyBusiness@Independent.co.uk

BUSINESS

BRIEFING

Euro plan for chemicals glant

SENIOR EXECUTIVES at Aventis, the new \$20bn Euro company born out of the merger of the life sciences operations of chemicals giants Hoechst and Rhône Poulenc, said yesterday that they are lobbying to be allowed to create a European company which will avoid them having to upset one or other party to the merger by registering in Germany or France. The idea of a European company has been tabled repeatedly by Brussels but has always collapsed because of an inability to reconcile the British practice of shareholder-owned companies with the Germanic principle of worker representation on company

Jurgen Dormann, the Hoechst chief executive who will run the new company from an as-yet unbuilt headquarters in Strasbourg, wants to see the new Euro company law on the statute books before Hoechst and Rhône-Poulenc move

Stock Exchange profits tumble



PROFITS AT the London Stock Exchange tumbled by 15 per cent in the six months to September 1998, reflecting increases in the operating cost base, special provisions for EMU and the year 2000 and a drop in trading income, according to figures released

After tax, Exchange profits totalled £15.8m in the first half, compared to

£18.3m in the corresponding period in 1997. Trading income fell by 8 per cent, reflecting the decision in October 1997 to cut trading prices by up to 60 per cent. However, overall trading volumes were up, according to an Exchange spokesman, as were sales of information

Pub group aims for £1bn float

A NEW FORCE was created in the pubs sector yesterday with the formation of the 2,400 strong Unique Pub company. The group, which is aiming for a £1bn stock market flotation in 2001, has been formed from the Inntrepreneur, Spring Inns and Phoenix Pub groups controlled by Nomura, the Japanese securities house. Nomura selected the pubs, which hold exclusive beer supply deals with the major brewers. Around 20 per cent of the estate is leased to pub groups such as Slug & Lettuce, Yate's Wine Lodges and Regent Inns.

STOCK MARKETS									
FTSE 100	DOW JONES	NIKKEI							
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5800	9300	15100							
5600	9100	14900							
5400 W T F M T	4900 T F M T	14700							
<u> </u>	Dow 1	ones index and graph at Spo							

indes	Close	Change	Change (%)	52 mk bigh	52 est loss Y1	eld(%)
FTSE 100	5537.50	-206.40	-3.59	6183.70	4599.20	3.40
FTSE 250	4821.40	-80.30	-1.64	5970.00	4247.00	4.81
FTSE 350	2632.60	-89.00	-3,27	2969.00	2210.00	3.63
FTSE All Share	2543 41	-83.45	-3,18	2886.52	2143,53	3.66
FTSE SmallCap	2039.50	-25.50	-1.24	2794.00	1834,00	4.14
FTSE Fledgling	1 128 60	-11.50	-1,01	1517.00	1046.00	0.00
FTSE AIM	808,30	-8 00	-0.98	1146.00	761.00	0.00
FTSE EBLOC 100	923.63	-39.30	-4,08			
Dow Jones	9092.61	-35.27	-0.39	9380.00	7400.00	1.65
Nikkel	14835.41	-48.29	-0.32	17352.00	12787.00	0.99
Hang Seng	9975.85	-426.47	-4.10	11925.00	6544.00	3.14
Da	4781.73	-240.97	-4.80	6217 83	3833 71	1.86

SHORT STERLING	UK 10 YEAR GILT	US LONG BOND			
6 80	4.90	5 20			
6.76	0 80	5.15			
6.72	A 70	5.10			
6.68	1,50	5.05			

INTEREST RATES

MC	NEY I	MARK	1	BONI	YIELD:	6		
Index	3 month	Yr chg	1 Year	Yr chg	10 year	Yr chg	Long bond	Yr chg
UK	6 88	-0.87	6.36	-1.60	4.65	-1.86	4.38	-2,03
us	5.28	-0.63	5.09	-0.94	4.68		5.07	
Japan	0 44	-0.17	0.52	-0.18	1.14	-0.81	1,83	-0.77
Germany	3.65	-0.11	3.45	-0.64	3.97	-1.48	4.83	-1.20

CORRENCIES								
\$/£	DM/£	¥/£						
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1 660	2.820	293						
1 650	2.780	202						
	1,740	1 201						

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2 7804	-1.60pf	2.9743	D-Mark	1.6807	-1.43pf	1.7987	
202.16	-40.94	215,94	Yen	122.22	-¥-0.94	130.58	
100.00	-0.50	105.60	S index	106.60	-0.50	108.00	
	at Span 1.6541 2 7804 202.16	1.6541 +0.45c 2.7804 -1.60pf 202.16 -40.94	at Spm Change Yr Ago 1.6541 +0.45c 1.6451 2 7804 -1.60pf 2.9743 202.16 -40.94 215.94	at Span Change Vr Ago 1.6541 +0.45c 1.6451 Sterling 2 7804 -1.50pt 2.9743 D-Mark 202.16 -40.94 215.94 Yen	at Spen Change Vr Ago at Spen 1.6541 +0.45c 1.6451 Sterling 0.6046 2 7804 -1.60pf 2.9743 D-Mark 1.6807 202.16 -40.94 215.94 Yen 122.22	at Spm Change Yr Ago at Spm Change 1.6541 +0.45c 1.6451 Srerling 0.6046 -0.16p 2 7804 -1.60pt 2.9743 D-Mark 1.6807 -1.43pt 202.16 -40.94 215.94 Yen 122.22 -Y-0.94	

Brent Qu

Malta (lira)

Gold (S)

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2	94.15	0.95	293.45	RPI	164.50	3.10	159,55	Nov

Sliver (S)	4.88	-0.05	5.24	Base Rates	6.75	7 25				
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		rou	RIS	T RAT	ES					
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Austria (se	hillings	;)	19.02	Netherlan	ds (gull	ders)	3,0508			
Belgium (francs)		55.92	New Zeak			3.0014			
Canada (\$]	2	.4464	Norway ((rone)		12.09			
Cyprus (pe	ounds)		.7992	Portugal (escudo	s) _	275.43			
Denmark	(krone)		10.35	Saudi Aral	bia (rial:	5)	6.0078			
Finland (n	narkka)	8	2464	Singapore	(S)		2.5929			
			A							

55.92	New Zealand (S)	3.001
2.4464	Norway (krone)	12.0
0.7992	Portugal (escudos)	275.4
10.35	Saudi Arabia (rials)	6.007
8.2464	Singapore (S)	2.592
9.0911	Spain (pesetas)	230.2
2.7186	South Africa (rands)	9.026
455.79	Sweden (krone)	13.1
12.38	Switzerland (francs)	2.237
1.0887	Thailand (bahts)	54.5
63.13	Turkey (lirasi)	48075
6.3927	USA (5)	1.610
2694		
198.45	Rates for indication purp	oses con
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Source Thomas Cook

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\$250bn Exxon-Mobil deal is biggest merger in history

By MICHAEL HARRISON

THE MAP of the world oil industry was redrawn yesterday after Exxon unveiled details of its \$250on merger with Mobil. and Total of France and Belgium's Petrofina joined forces in a \$39bn European merger.

Exxon Mobil represents the biggest merger in history and will create the world's preeminent oil major with revenues of \$200bn, 123,000 employees and worldwide production of 2.5 million barrels of oil a day.

The merged US oil giant forecast that it would generate savings of \$2.8bn after two years and shrugged off fears that regulatory opposition could yet scupper the deal.

Exxon Mobil estimated that rationalisation costs would reach \$2bn but it declined to say how many job losses could be entailed In Britain, where Exxon operates under the Esso name, the two companies employ a total of 4,100 staff.

However, shares in both Exxon and Total, the dominant partners in the respective mergers, fell on confirmation of the two deals as analysts questioned whether they were overpaying at a time of historically low oil prices. Exxon shares fell 5 per cent while Total shares took a battering on the Paris bourse, crashing by 8 per cent as the market opened. Brent crude siid to \$10.43 a barrel.

Analysts and oil industry observers have warned that Exxon Mobil will have to overcome serious competition concerns both in the US and Europe, where Mobil already has a joint venture with BP covering 6,000 petrol

European Union regulators are expected to force Exxon Mobil to unravel the tie-up with BP. This could result in BP buying back Mobil's 30 per cent stake in the \$5bn joint venture at a knock-down price.

Analysts said Exxon Mobil

Joining forces: An Exxon service station next to a Mobil station in Falls Church, Virginia, yesterday could also be forced into heavy disposals in the US, where it dominates the petrol market, particularly on the West Coast. at Fahnestock in New York.

However, Exxon Mobil said it did not expect any big anti-trust problems. It added that in the US it would be of a similar scale and size, both nationally and regionally, as other downstream joint ventures such as the BP-Amoco merger.

"This will be a company with market capitalisation of \$250bm. It can afford to throw the

regulators a crumb of say \$5bn in asset sales or divestments," said Fadel Gheit, an oil analyst

The Exxon Mobil deal reunites two of the seven sisters orphaned by the enforced breakup in 1911 of John D Rockefeller's United Standard Oil Trust, Exxon shareholders will own 70 per cent of the enlarged company and the chairman and chief executive of the combined group will be Exxon's current chairman Lee Raymond.

Mobil shareholders will be left with 30 per cent of the merged group and are being offered 1.32 Exxon shares for each Mobil share they own. The deal values the smaller oil company at

Exxon, which was advised by the investment bank J P Morgan, estimates that the merger will improve its return on capital by 4 per cent within three to

The main elements in the

are \$1.1bn of savings through rationalisation of production programmes, \$750m through "organisational efficiencies" and \$300m each through the adoption of best practices and a more selective exploration pro-

Self

In the UK, Esso and Mobil together operate about 2,600 petrol stations and have a combined market share of 25 per cent. Esso employs 2,500 staff and has a further 780 employees at Exxon

staff in its oil and gas 🗟 division and a further 500 joint venture with BP.

Total Fina will become curs buy world's sixth largest oil kin with revenues of \$53bn aree income of \$1.9bn. Howeve alvsts criticised the price was paying.

In Britain Total and Fin around 960 petrol stations a combined market share of 8 per cent. The two compe operate a refinery together in \$2.8bn cost-saving programme Chemicals. Mobil employs 1,300 mingham on Humbert le

Footsie and sterling dive as manufacturing stalls

BY DIANE COYLE **Economics Editor**

NEW SIGNS that the economy is stalling helped send share prices tumbling and took the pound lower on the foreign ex-

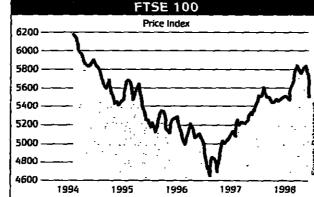
The FTSE-100 index ended more than 206 points lower at 5,537.5 in its biggest one-day fall in points since the crash of October 1987. Sterling lost more than two pfennigs against the German mark, falling as low as DM2.7765 during the day.

Early weakness on Wall Street, aithough later reversed, added to the gloom in London. The news of another megamerger did nothing to lift share prices.
These mergers reflect com-

panies trying to address a very hostile trading environment." said Richard Kersley, equity strategist at CSFB. Business surveys on both

sides of the Atlantic showed weaker than expected activity in manufacturing last month. Wall Street shrugged off the

US figures, which showed manufacturers struggling in the face of dismal export orders. "Manufacturing is in recession but consumer confidence is strong. The economy is slowing but levels are increasingly being



not collapsing," said Ian Shepherdson of High Frequency Economics in New York.

The UK's survey of purchasing managers in manufacturing painted an altogether bleaker picture, with activity declining for the eighth month running. The index dropped from 41.4 in October to 41.1, the furthest below the 50 boombust dividing line it has reached in its seven-year history. Prices charged also fell at the fastest rate recorded since the survey

Peter Thomson, director general of the Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply, said: "Worryingly, declining activity

translated into more widespread redundancies

A separate survey of services launched yesterday by the Confederation of British Industry revealed growing pessimism in that sector of the economy too. The volume of business had increased during the past three months, but companies expected slower growth in the next three months, and have become pessimistic. Although the prices they

charged had declined, the 326 firms responding to the survey reported a sharp increase in There was some comfort for

industry yesterday from Mervyn King, deputy governor



of the Bank of England. Mr King said members of the Bank's Monetary Policy Committee had "soft hearts but hard heads". They would not use interest rates to target lower unemployment because there was no long-term trade off between jobs and inflation.

'Sustainable reductions in unemployment require a combination of monetary stability on the demand side and microeconomic reforms such as the New Deal on the supply side," he said in a speech to the Employment Policy Institute. But Mr King added that the Bank would try to avoid "undesirable instability" in employment and

Mervyu King: MPC has 'soft bearts, hard heads'

The length of the ban, which

Seven other former Barings directors, including the chief executive Peter Norris, have already been banned from, serving as company directors for periods of two to five years.

February 1995 after Leeson, a rector to receive a DTI

Barings deputy barred over Leeson affair

By Andrew Garfield Financial Editor

ANDREW TUCKEY, the former deputy chairman of Barings, the City merchant bank, was yesterday told he was to be disqualified from being a company director because of his failure to act to prevent the bank's collapse at the hands of trader Nick Leeson three years ago.

Mr Justice Parker ruled in the High Court yesterday that Mr Tuckey and two other senior Barings directors, Anthony Gamby and Ron Baker, were guilty of such incompetence as to be unfit to serve as direc-

under the terms of the 1986 Company Directors Disqualification Act could last between two and 15 years, will be decided at a later date. The ban follows an application from Peter Mandelson, the Secretary for Trade and Industry.

or periods of two to five years. DLJ. Mr Tuckey is the ig Barings was bankrupted in ranking director Baring

trader in the bank's Singar office, made huge lossen unauthorised trading in Jan

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Editor (Carro

ese stock market futures A subsequent investigen by the Bank of Englandhchuded that there was evide of serious incompetence nior management. A numit staff were also accused of viding misleading and in quate information to regul whose job was to supe

the bank. Leeson, 31, whose exp are the subject of a film Bank Breaker starr McGregor has served two a-half years of a six-andyear jail sentence in S pore's Changi prison. He tioned in September to brought back to Britain being diagnosed with co

cancer. Shortly after the events led to the collapse, Mr Tu resigned from the bank w was taken over by the D banking and insurance ING for £1. He is believed working on a consultancy in the City at the London of of the American stockho

LONDON

FOOTSIE SUFFERED the third biggest fall in its history yesterday as a sharp overnight sell-off on Wall Street sparked a savage round of profit-taking. Heavy selling left the blue-chip index 206.4 lower at 5537.5, its largest slump since the 1987 crash., with more than 1.1 billion shares traded. A bearish CBI services survey and a gloomy report on manufacturing made things worse. The other indices fared slightly better, the mid cap ending 80.3 lower at 4821.4 and the small cap 25.5 off at 2039.5.

Market Report, page 23

NEW YORK

SURGING internet shares such as America Online and Yahoo! offset a decline in Exxon after it agreed to buy Mobil in the biggesi acquisition ever. By early afternoon, the hi-tech dominated Nasdaq index was up 18.26, or 0.9 per cent, to 1967.80, buoyed by the belief this holiday season will send record numbers of shoppers to retail sites on the World Wide Web. The Dow Jones Industrial Average fell 27.58, paring a 128point loss, to 9090.03. Exxon led the average lower, accounting for the Dow's entire decline.

TOKYO

STOCKS ended little changed as the market shrugged off a sharp fall in New York shares overnight and the bankruptcy of JDC Corp, a midsized construction company. By the close, the Nikkei 225 stock average was down 48.29 points or 0.32 per cent at 14,835.41. "The JDC bankruptcy is unlikely to deal a [long-term] blow to the overall construction sector. Some firms in the sector which face tough business conditions have been already sold," said Keiko Kondo at Merril Lynch Japan. The dollar was down, at 122,72 yen,

AROUND THE WORLD'S MARKETS

HONG KONG

PROPERTY DEVELOPERS led the Hang Seng Index down 426.47, or 4.1 per cent, to 9,975.85, amid concern high interest rates and recession will hit demand for offices and apartments. Sun Hung Kai Properties and Cheung Kong. the two largest developers. accounted for one-fifth of the decline. The Hang Seng Property Index has fallen 9 per cent since a report last Friday showed the city's economy shrank 7 per cent in the third quarter from a year ago, compared to a 5 per cent decline in the second quarter.

PARIS

STOCKS NOSEDIVED again. tracking the Dow Jones index! as investors locked in profits on view that the markets have rise too steeply in recent weeks. The CAC-40 index closed down per cent at 3,688.34, amid heavy

The latest merger news did n help; oil company Total plumme 12.34 per cent on arbitrage tradi after announcing plans to join w Belgium's Petrofina. But many operators remained sanguine, saying they expected the in rebound again before the year-

المكذا من الاحل

Rockefeller's empire rises again

SLOVLY BUT SURELY the disparate s of John D Rockefeller's Standain, Oil Trust are being reunited, drirentogether by an historically low oil trice and an overdose of the "me

fter BP-Amoco, two more of the ebrphans spawned from the enorted break-up of Rockefeller's oil mire in 1911 are coming back inder one roof. Exton Mobil is the isely of them all. Who knows, if Total PetroFina looked hard enough, paps they too would find some lokefeller blood in their veins. "he problem with "me too" mergsis that bidders generally end up paying in their anxiety not to be

behind by the industry consoliubn that is happening all around 1. Yesterday the judgement of the ket was that both Exxon and 4. the dominant partners in their ective mergers, may have fallnto just that trap. hares in Exxon and Total both in the case of the French oil comy by a thumping 8 per cent. It is hard to see why when Total is

ing a 22 per cent premium to

roFina's all-time high just as oil

es hit their all-time low in real

is. With Elector Mobil, the picture

ittle more complicated, since this



OUTLOOK

merger does not create a new dom inant force in the global oil industry, but merely extends Exxon's lead. For that reason, the economies of scale on offer are not as great as in BP-Amoco, nor are the synergies as compelling. The regulatory risk,

however, is much greater since Exxon Mobil faces extensive cometition hurdles in both North America and Europe. In terms of size, Exxon Mobil looks more like a Saudi Arabia or a Venezuela than a mere oil company give the game away. BP-Amoco, with revenues of \$100bn a year,

reckons it will achieve savings of

squeeze out \$800m more in the way of synergies than BP-Amoco.

This is before any forced divestments have eaten into the logic and the cost benefits of combining America's two biggest oil groups. In terms of enhancing shareholder value, it is hard to see how even the mighty Exxon can come close to BP-Amoco by swallowing up Mobil, But that may no langer matter. The question on the oil industry's lips now is how much longer Shell can withstand the temptation to join the merry-go-round.

Robert Fleming

ROBERT FLEMING is one of Britain's last remaining independent investment banks. For how much longer can it remain so? Or to put the question another way, for how much longer can Robert Fleming stay in its present form and continue to thrive?

Robert Fleming is not as big or successful as Schroders, and it lacks But the companies own sums rather the corporate advisory focus and strengths of Lazards and Cazenove. Like N M Rothschild, it is privately owned and still run in the manner of \$2bn, Exxon Mobil, with revenues a family business (a number of fam-

twice the size, only expects to ily members continue to work at the bank), but unlike NM Rothschild, it is not wholly owned or controlled by the family.

Furthermore, it has taken a bath in the Far East and other emerging markets, quite how bad a one we will learn tomorrow when the bank announces its interim results.

As a private company it could be said that it is nobody's business but its own and its customers how the bank chooses to organise its affairs. It can afford to be more induirent than others, and it perhaps doesn't have to be quite as obsessed with the pursuit of shareholder value as ordinary publicly quoted companies.

All of which is just as well, for when its shares do change hands, they do so at a discount to what they could be expected to fetch if Robert Fleming were a publicly quoted company. The effect of this is to discourage the "wrong" type of investor from joining the shareholder ister, thus keeping it all in the familv. so to speak

Though Robert Fleming is only 46 per cent owned by family and staff, its other shareholders are mostly part of the Robert Fleming club in some shape or form, an inner circle of City institutions and individuals

the boat. Why, a large chunk of the bank is owned by its own investment trusts, an extraordinary piece of incest which in recent years has damaged the performance of the investment trusts involved.

If Robert Fleming wants to survive and prosper in the next century, can it really afford to stay like this? The imminent departure of Patrick Gifford as head of the investment trusts business is perhaps indicative of continued tensions within the bank between what might be termed the family and modernising tendencies. The bank insists there has been no row, an account which is to some extent backed by the fact that he will continue as a director of seven of Fleming's 19 investment trusts But the bank cannot rule out disil-

husionment, for why else does someone quit in their early fifties? The truth of the matter is that Robert Fleming has a superb name and franchise on its investment management side, which it has built apon through joint ventures with Jardines in the Far East and Rowe Price in the US. But the rest - securities, corporate finance, private and corporate banking - doesn't stand up to the most basic of tests on size, reach

who can be relied apon not to rock and reputation. As long as Fleming strong pound and weakening conremains bound by its present privately owned structure, it will remain incapable of acting effectively on this combination of strength and weak-

Courtaulds

THIS IS a grim statistic that tells the tale of inexorable decline. The UK textile industry has underperformed the rest of the stock market virtually every year for the last two decades. This year it has surpassed itself with an underperformance of 60 per cent. This, then, is not a story of a sudden seizure, but of a long, lingering illness turning into a terminal one.

In recent months, scarcely a week has gone by without a profits warning at one of Britain's leading textile producers, generally accomried by large scale job cuts. Cour-1,200 yesterday, bringing the total in the industry to more than 2,000 this month alone. There are reports of up to 60,000 textile jobs going over the next two years as the industry slides into the abyss.

Some of the re

sumer demand at home have been like a hammer blow to the industry. Added to this is the relatively recent phenomenon of mighty Marks & Spencer changing its buying patterns.

M&S's power in the UK textile sector cannot be under estimated. It still buys 70 per cent of all its goods (including non-textiles) from the UK. Last year it bought £5.7bn worth of UK textiles, accounting for a third of the industry's output. So when the giant of Baker Street sneezes, the sector cannot help catching a cold.

When M&S called its major textiles suppliers together for a crunch meeting in September, the writing was on the wall. M&S wanted its suppliers to cut costs, and for most of those present, that meant shifting more manufacturing to cheaper countries like Morocco, Turkey and the Far East. The slump in sales at M&S since then and the appointment tauld Textiles announced a further of a new chief executive under pressure to implement change, will accelerate the proces

Britain may still be among the world's best when it comes to street fashion and dainty lace. But sadly, it looks like the rest of the sector will be applying for its passport before the

N BRIEF

ifirm's founder

OUNDER of Financial ts will be worth rimately £24m when fitware group floats on ondon Stock Exchange this month. Shares in oup will be priced at en 195p and 245p each. g Financial Objects at en £69m and £87m. the flotation, which will £19m in new funds. ster will continue to 22.5 per cent stake in

litours buy

ROURS, the package tour petor, yesterday nunced it bad acquired lworld for £9.2m. David sland, chairman of rlurs, said: "Travelworld oples us with additional higstreet distribution, in accidance with our cornuing programme of invention in distribution in the K." Mr Crossland said he inted to increase the proprtion of Airtours packees sold in the Hulersfield-based chain of 116 avel agents, one of the largst independent UK

Javis £22m deal

trat agents.

JAHS, the railway matenance company, has wor tru-year extension to its al with Railtrack in the Nor Wales area. Paris Mordi, chief executive of Jars, said that Railtrack "hademonstrated contence in Jarvis", by awaling them the £22m

Pi prison

TAHAC, the construction corpany, and Group Four yeshday won a £194m cornet to build and majain a privately financed pring of Onley in Wards shire. The prison, whi will accommodate 600 maprisoners, will create 250 Instruction jobs, and 300 peranent jobs, when the pris opens in the year 2000.

H#s moves in

HA the business service gro, yesterday announced the quisition of the speakst French courier Cotal for an initial sum of 114h, plus performancereled payments of up to 26.5. Ronnie Frost. chaman of Hays, described the puisition as "the next ur strategy of steet ar strategy of expision on the Continent".

appointment

THUANK for International Set ments (BIS) yesterday and inced it had appointed Jod Heimann as the first man of the new financial tute is a joint initiative by BIS and the Basie mitte on Banking rvision which is seen ending to needs for rigthening financial ms worldwide. ederik Munsch was inted the institute's riate director. Heimann trently chairman of Gial Financial Institutions

errill Lynch, while

Baing Supervision.

n is secretary general

News Analysis: George Soros's new book says that speculators threaten to destabilise the world economy

Is capitalism heading for breakdown?

By DIANE COYLE **Economics** Editor

"AS A fund manager, I depended a great deal on my emotions. The predominant feelings I operated with were doubt, uncertainty and fear," writes George Soros in his new book, The Crisis of Global Capitalism. Wrecking ball, bubonic plague, depression, total breakdown these are just a few of the emotional phrases Mr Soros uses in his analysis of global financial

When someone who has benefited to the time of billions of dollars from the financial markets says that destabilising speculation threatens a complete breakdown of the capitalist system – which has delivered such amazing advances in prosperity over the past five decades it is worth paying attention. Certainly, opponents of free Mr Soros's recantation with glee. But is there analytical substance behind the emotional gloss of the Soros critique?

Financial markets have always been prone to crises. Human nature seems to contain a herd instinct, and besides, it can be rational for investors to create a bubble so long as they are confident about getting out before it bursts.

There is nothing inherently damaging about such self-fulfiling speculation. Indeed, in his Tract on Monetary Reform, John Maynard Keynes - usually quoted for his condemnation of "casino capitalism" – emphasises the importance of speculators to healthy capital markets. Speculators provide liquidity and reinforce existing trends rather than bucking them, he argued. The speculation has to have something to feed on in the first place.

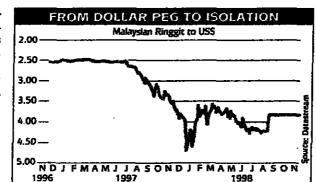
Even so, the financial markets have clearly been a destabilising force in the world economy since the Asian crisis first erupted in July 1997. It raises the question of whether, as capital flows have grown larger and more footloose, the specu-



George Soros: 'As a fund manager I depended a great deal on my emotions. The predominant feelings were doubt, uncertainty and fear' Reuters

tion for evasion, corruption and

the abuse of power," he writes.



lative froth has reached unacceptable proportions. In particular, would it be sensible to reintroduce capital controls, which have been steadily dismantied over the past three

Although some economists notably Paul Krugman of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology - think there is a good case for capital controls. Mr Soros is clearly against them Capital controls are an invita-

Certainly, the first regime to reach for controls, post-crisis, was the authoritarian Malaysian government. Meanwhile Chile, which did have restrictions on capital inflows, has recently lifted them. Exchange controls were effective after the war, when so much

economic activity was subject to planning and restriction, but by the early 1970s they were all but s. So, while one lesson of the Asian crisis is that developing countries should liberalise slowly and cautiously, it must not be forgotten that there were good reasons for the abolition of capital controls in the first

But if this type of restriction emergence of a G3. In addition,

is not the answer, what can be done? Mr Soros concludes that there should be international flnancial regulation, but not by the International Monetary Fund. The IMF is part of the problem. he says. Rather, he puts the onus on the Group of Seven countries but concludes that the prospects of the G7 taking effective action are dim as it has not yet inter-

vened in Russia However, it is difficult to see the G7 as the right vehicle for international financial management, important as it might be in the case of a large and politically important country such as Russia. Apart from anything else the G7 itself is in flux, with the introduction of the euro in January likely to see the rapid

the biggest countries cannot practically be involved in overseeing all of the rest of the world, which is why the IMF and other such bodies exist.

In the end, it is not the institutional arrangements that matter. If the IMF did not exist, there would be calls for its creation after this year's crisis. The two key problems are whether the response to financial market turbulence should include genuine international co-ordination through the creation of a worldwide lender-of-last-resort. and what sort of exchange rate regime should exist.

As Mr Soros knows, fixed exchange rates can easily become sitting ducks for speculators. They are sustainable only if the countries locking their curren-

cles to another are prepared to adjust their domestic economic policies for the sake of the exchange rate. The gold standard survived only as long as they were. But the UK in 1992 was not prepared to match its macroeconomic policy to Germany's, and the pound's exchange rate mechanism link was doomed.

The only viable alternatives in a world of huge capital flows are freely floating exchange rates and corrency union. Europe has opted for the latter. If the rest of the world is stuck with floating rates, how can governments hope to counter the instability of the financial

One solution is to have perfect domestic policies at all times, giving speculators nothing to run against. But this is a touch utopian - even if they all had first-rate policy makers, economies are buffeted by all

Another would be to create a genuine international authority with the task of stabilising the world economy and markets. At present the work of adjusting to crisis is forced on to a combination of the IMF and national

The IMF, which has meagre resources, effectively bails out banks that face the risk of default by a borrower by providing liquidity to the borrower, while national central banks bail them out by providing liquidity to the lender within their own boundaries if there looks to be a seri-

banking system. Perhaps the creation of an international lender of last resort would be preferable to this messy ad hoc response. Mr Soros seems to think some such source of finance is needed to resolve the crisis in the markets he helped destabilise. So, too, do some G7 officials. But the pro-

posal is controversial. Others believe that lending to borrowers in emerging markets is a risky business whose risk should fall directly on the speculators themselves - not least

Duisenberg fuels hope **Bank of America makes £4bn** of low rates for EMU | play to acquire Barclaycard

THE PRESIDENT of the Euro- By LEA PATERSON pean Central Bank last night said there was "unequivocal" evdence of a slowdown in Euroean growth, and said that no firm decision had yet been taken on the starting level of European interest rates. "The risks as we analyse

them and observe them are all on the downside," he said. Wim Dusienberg's comments - combined with a raft of weak European economic data - raised hopes among some analysts of an early cut in interest rates in the 11 countries

participating in the first wave of European Monetary Union. However, others said that the ECB's latest forecast of Euro-area growth - around 2.5 per cent - was consistent with

a "no change" policy on rates. Most in the City still expect the ECB to set interest rates at 3.3 per cent when it takes charge of European monetary policy next year - the level currently prevailing in France and Ger-

The ECB president rejected claims that the bank's decisions would not be sufficiently transparent, saying it would create openness by explaining decisions rather than publishing minutes of meetings.

According to Mr Duisenberg the ECB was already the most open central bank in the world. He repeated his warning to politicians that any attempt by need for the ECB to be stubborn

bility Pact could damage the euro, and cautioned that government budgets were far from balanced

Weak inflation data and disappointing European business surveys strengthened the case for an early easing of interest rates, analysts said.

Figures released yesterday showed that inflation in the 11 countries participating in the first wave of monetary union remained unchanged at 1 per cent in October

Separate surveys of European manufacturers revealed sharp falls in activity. Sharda Persaud, EMU expert at Paribas, said: "With 1 per cent

BANK OF AMERICA has approached Barciays Bank with an offer to buy its Barclaycard ss, which analysts value at around £3.8bn.

The offer is believed to have come within the last three weeks, and may have been prompted by the talk that Barclays was contemplating a radical demerger of its retail and corporate banking businesses.

It has subsequently emerged that the demerger plan, which was rejected by the Barclays board, was the catalyst in the boardroom rift that led to Martin Taylor quitting as chief executive last Friday.

Analysts said that the Bank inflation, there is basically no of America approach was opportunistic and unlikely to sucto tamper with the Fiscal Sta- about not bringing rates down." | ceed. They said the priority for Barclays linked the move to a credit card market for several

BY ANDREW GARFIELD Financial Editor

Barclays is to concentrate on getting the bank back on track after the damaging events of the past week.

The idea of selling Barclaycard would nevertheless have its attractions provided the price was right. Barclaycard is suffering a

slow attrition in the market place as new entrants from the United States such as MBNA and Capital One have moved ag- and is expected to contribute gressively into the British market, offering lower rates.

Barclays announced in late September that it was cutting 1100 jobs out of a total staff of 4,400 over the next three years. technology.

However, most analysts interpreted the announcement as a tacit admission that the market place for credit cards was getting tougher and that

Barclaycard, as the market leader, was feeling the strain. However Barclaycard still has the strongest UK credit card brand and by far the biggest market position of any of the clearing banks. It enjoys a return on capital of 85 per cent

£300m or nearly 16 per cent of

Barclays' £1.9bn pre-tax profit this year. Bank of America has been seeking a way of breaking into the fast growing European

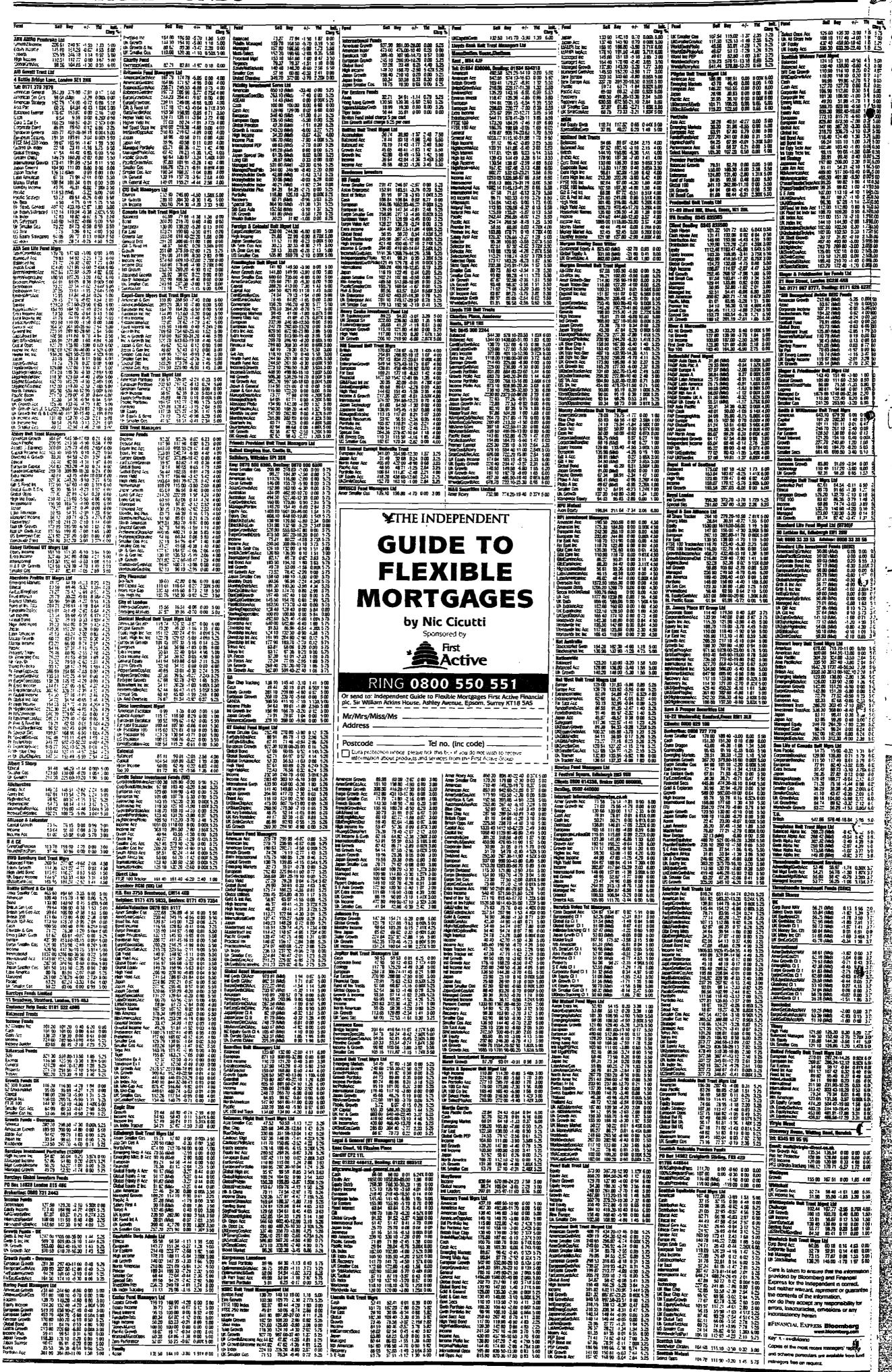
plan to invest more heavily in years. The bank recruited former Visa head Gene Lockhart to spearhead its European assault, although Mr Lockhart left the business in May after Bank of America's merger with

> Barclays insiders said that Barclaycard continues to be run within the Barclays group as a separate fiefdom

rival Nationsbank,

There has been little attempt to integrate the business either operationally or in terms of cross-marketing mainstream banking services to credit-card holders, although the bank does make significant sums of money from selling insurance and trav-

el packages to card holders. Neither Bank of America nor Barclays were prepared to



Wednesday 2 December 1998

Micro Focus chief leaves after plunge into the red

share price, pence

BY PETER THAL LARSEN

THE CHIEF executive of Micro Focus resigned yesterday after the software group plunged into the red in the third quarter of the year.

Martin Waters, who has been in the job less than two years, is giving up his executive responsibilities. He will be replaced by Gary Greenfield, formerly chief executive of Intersolv - the US software company which Micro Focus bought for £300m in June.

The switch was announced as Micro Focus confirmed disastrous third-quarter results which it flagged in a profit warning last month. In the three months to September, operating profits slumped to just \$99,000 compared with \$10.6m in the same period last year. The company also took a \$49.7m charge related to the merger with Intersolv



Martin Waters: Giving up executive responsibilities as Micro Focus confirmed a disastrous third quarter

Mr Waters will receive compensation for loss of office, even though he is staying on the board as a non-executive director However Micro Focus refused to discuss the size of the payout. Last year, Mr Waters received a salary of £489,000, including a performance-related

Mr Greenfield said the decision to remove Mr Waters was taken by the whole of Micro Focus's board. "This reflects the results of the previous quarter and concerns about the company's future," he said.

The shake-up follows a disastrous few months for Micro

warning last month. Mr Green- customers waited for the new moved fast enough to integrate Intersolv into its operations. "We haven't done our job," Mr Greenfield said. "We've been slow in getting off the ground and we want to accelerate that

حكدًا من الأجل

Focus in two years. Last year Marcelo Gumucio resigned with a £545,000 payoff after turning the company around.

Micro Focus's results were also hit by a slump in demand for products used to fix the millennium computer bug. In the US, companies have largely finished dealing with the problem and are now testing their systems to see whether they will

work when the date changes. However, Micro Focus only launched its millennium testing solutions in November, leading

field said Micro Focus had not products to arrive. Millennium products currently account for about 20 per cent of Micro Focus's turnover.

George O'Connor, information technology analyst at Granville, the investment bank said: "Micro Focus have been Mr Waters is the second caught napping. The US mar-chief executive to leave Micro ket moved quickly but they should really be a lot closer to their customers."

> Micro Focus shares fell 8.5p to 117.5p. They peaked at 718p earlier this year.

Analysts now expect the company to report a pre-tax profit of £15.8m for the year to April 1999. For the following year, they have pencilled in £30,7m.

Mr O'Connor said investors were likely to be cautious. "It will be difficult to get investors buying back into the stock until the company can demonstrate longevity beyond the millenni-

Broking companies for the Asia-Pacific region have already announced layoffs but with the economic crisis continuing, more are set to follow Jobs shakeout forecast for Asia-Pacific brokers

A MASSIVE shakeout in the BY STEPHEN VINES Asia-Pacific stockbroking industry has been predicted with around two-thirds of 1,463 analysts covered in a survey released yesterday likely to lose their jobs.

The forecast was made by the London-based firm Tempest Consultants, which launched its first Asia Pacific Rim survey of brokers and investment banking, sponsored by Reuters.

There was nervous laughter in the luxury Hong Kong hotel yesterday where Tempest's Stephen Parker told brokers at the ceremony launching the survey that the industry was too big to justify current volumes of

Speaking later Mr Parker said the excess capacity in the Asia-Pacific region was worse than elsewhere in the world because "for a number of years in Hong Kong

fashion.

it was easy to make money". The Asian markets' gravy train has hit the buffers in spectacular

Local and international broking companies have already announced lay-offs but the Tempest survey showed that fund managers are reducing the number of brokers they use. Around 36 per cent of the 155 companies questioned said they were developing in-house expertise to replace services previously provided by brokers.

Mr Parker also noted that some of the stockbrokers with the best analysts were suffering from poor sales and execution departments. When times were good these deficiencies could be overlooked but in current circumstances this made the bro-

kerages vulnerable, he said. Most striking in the survey was that not a single locally-based stock broker managed to score a place in the survey's rating of top performers.

Fund managers chose the Hong Kong-based CLSA economics and strategy team as the best sector analysts. Warburg Dillon Read won the overall best broker research award, Merrill Lynch took the top prize for best broker sales and ABN Amro gained top rating for best broker execution

Interestingly, the large companies interviewed for the survey produced a different set of assessments of their top broking companies. They voted for Merrill Lynch as best for research. Fidelity Investments as the top fund management group and Goldman Sachs as the best in-

Cortecs in chaos as chief executive quits

CORTECS, the troubled biotechnology company, was plunged into chaos yesterday as it announced the departure of its chief executive. Michael Flynn, and warned of long delays in the development of its two star drugs. The news sparked a sharp fall in the company's share price

> Shares in Cortecs, chaired by the former Conservative minis

By Francesco Guerrera

half their value to close at an alltime low of 12.25p. They have now lost more than 93 per cent since their 189p peak last December.

The group revealed that its most advanced product, Macritonin, an oral treatment for osteoporosis, could face several years of delays. The company said that if the comter Lord Patten, shed more than pound was not approved by years on the market.

COMPANY RESULTS

European medical authorities in the first quarter of next year. a new application would have to be submitted. This "would delay significantly any product registration".

In the US, approval is not expected before 2004. The company also warned that high development costs could threaten the profitability of Macritonin, during its first

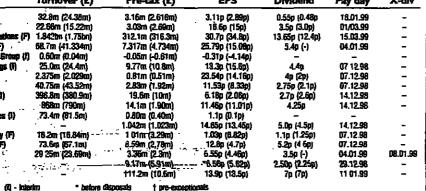
Cortecs' other leading product. Pseudostat, a drug for chronic bronchitis and cystic fibrosis, needed more trials, which could put back its market

Cortecs said that the setbacks would force it to slash costs to preserve its cash reserves of £16.2m. It would ask independent consultants to carry out a wholesale review of its operations.

The company said that Dr Flynn "agreed to resign as acting chief executive". He will be replaced by the director of research, Phil Gould. The chief operating officer, Martin Preuveneers, also left yesterday.

Dr Flynn's resignation comes six months after the acrimonious departure of the executive chairman and co-founder, Glen Travers, who is now suing the company for over £1.5m.

Hazlewood plays down talk of bid



HAZLEWOOD FOODS, the convenience foods group which makes ready-made meals, sandwiches and cooking sauces for the supermarkets, yesterday played down talk of a possible bid from Unigate while unveiling plans for a major product launch in the spring.

The company has linked with a possible deal with Unigate, the dairy group which three new ranges of ready- ever Mr Simons said the new

By NIGEL COPE Associate City Editor

is looking to use its cash pile for an acquisition. But John Simons. Hazlewood's chief executive, said no talks had taken place. "We have plenty of ideas of our own to take the business

more for just £1098 +VAT.

selling direct!

made meals in the spring in coniunction with its supermarket customers, which include Tesco, Sainsbury's and Asda. Though the company declined to give details, the investment in extra capacity at three plants

in Warrington, Wrexham and Bristol will lead to total costs of £2m-£3m being incurred later in Hazlewood plans to launch the group's final quarter. How- things people cut down on."

12 Months Interest Free Credit

NO Deposit NO Payments NO Interest tipe noise to need to save Until December 1988 If tuly repeld by December 1989

launches should add £30m of extra sales next year.

He also denied that weakening consumer confidence would affect sales of highmargin, higher-priced convenience foods. "We have seen no evidence of this. The market is rate. Food is one of the last

like sales grew by 7.3 per cent on the same period last year. The grocery division, which

wood reported flat pre-excep-

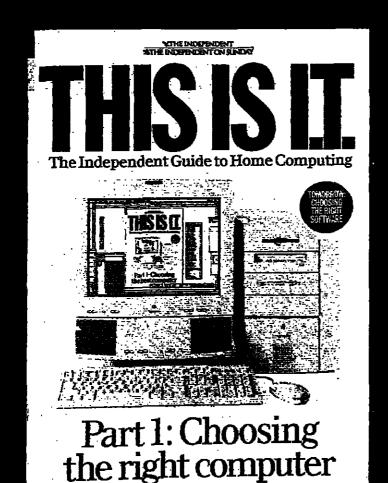
tional profits of £19.6m for the six

months to September. Like-for-

includes cooking sauces, was the best performer. Its underlying still growing, albeit at a slower sales grew by 12 per cent with 9 per cent. Shares in Hazlewood

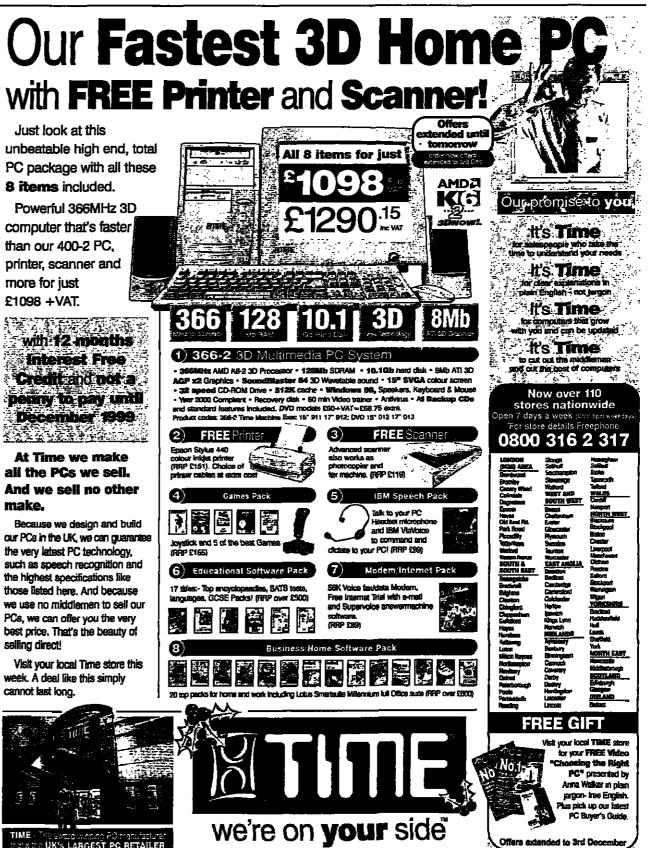
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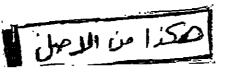


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Footsie takes biggest fall since '87

vesterday as a combination of American gloom, profit-taking and bearish economic sentiment conjured up the biggest fall since the crash of 1987. The blue-chin index looked like a well-lubricated City worker at the end of the office Christmas Party, staggering aimlessly for a while before falling flat

The main index finished a nunch-drunk 206.4, or 3.6 per cent, lower at 5537.5, after breaking through the psychologically important 5,700 and 5,600 barriers. The gest push by far came from Wall Street, which plunged 200 points overnight. Hong Kong and Tokyo also did their bit to corrode confidence and when London opened its fate was sealed.

Profit-taking set in, buoyed by the feeling that the market had been overbought in recent times. A gloomy CBI survey on services gave further ammunition to the sellers and red became the colour of choice among City screens. The mid and small cap fared relatively better but were still nursing big losses. The FTSE 250 closed down

MARKET REPORT



FRANCESCO GUERRERA

80.3 at 4821.4, while the Small Cap shed 25.5 to 2039.5.

Financials were caught in the eye of the storm as the recent outperformance whetted the profittakers' appetite. Amvescap took the brunt of some heavy selling. Fears over its exposure to melting global markets took 41.5p off the shares. which closed at 452p.

HSBC suffered from the Hang Seng's weakness and a downgrade from Credit Lyonnais. The final deficit was 104p to 1.536p. Standard Chartered was also on the receivLyonnais double whammy and crashed 17p to 627p.

The domestic banks fared little better. Royal Bank of Scotland, down 57p to 856p continued its rotten run ahead of tomorrow's results. The market is worried about bad debts. Its neighbour Bank of CITY SITE Estates, a small Scotland fell 39p to 631p in

sympathy. Lloyds TSB, still hot favourite for a takeover of Barclays, lost over 6 per cent to 791p after house broker ABN Amro cut its 1999 profit forecast to £2.9bn from £2.95. Abbey National was also among the banks' casualties, losing 64p to 1,161p.

Only five Footsie members survived the bloodbath. Telewest excited investors with its growth prospects. The shares put on 2p to 133p. Takeover talk kept EMI afloat. The music group rose a harmonious 4.25p to 365.25p. Railtrack, up 17p to 1,680p; Marks & Spencer, up 3.25p to 415.25p; and National Power, up 2.5p to 518.5p, benefited from their traditional role as safe havens.

IT stocks had Wall Street to blame for their underperformance.

ing end of the Hang Seng/ Credit The techies had led the US market's overnight slump and London dealers embarked on some copycat selling. Sema was the second largest faller in the Footsie, shedding over 9 per cent to 450p. Colt,

> Scottish property group, firmed 4p to 30.5p. after revealing that it had received a takeover approach. The market is betting that the new offer will top the 26p-a-share from City Site's managing director Louis Goodman Mr Goodman, launched his £4.4m bid to take the company private in November and now controls around 37 per cent of the

> the Footsie newcomer, also suffered, losing 48.5p to 743.5p. Among the IT mid-cappers,

> CMG fell 117p to 1,385. Micro Focus did not help itself. The fast-growing group lost its chief executive and over 6 per cent to close at 117.5p.

SHARE SPOTLIGHT share price, pence CAPITA GROUP

Capita Group drove into a corner and triggered a slide in support services stocks. Rumour has it that it has lost the contract to provide would-be drivers with theory tests. The shares crashed over 8 per cent to 521p. Serco, down 70p to 950p, was hit by reflected gloom as the market fretted about margins in the competitive support market. Sector member AEA Technology

NDJFMAMJJASON

was also down 8.1 per cent to 735p. Hazlewood Foods was also guilty of spreading the selling disease. The convenience food producer disgusted analysts with weak interim numbers and was splattered

MEMORY CORPORATION. unchanged at 25p yesterday. will be active today. The IT stock, listed on AIM, is expected to announce a £3m contract with ICL. Memory, also traded on the European exchange Easdaq, will upgrade and streamline the memories of all ICL-made tills. The computerised equipment has

been installed in supermarkets across Europe and Memory's engineers will tour the continent to replace their chips.

all over the trading floor with a 7 per cent loss to 132.5p. Associated British Foods caught the bug, ending 57.5p down to 555.5p - Footsie's worst performer. The market fears that ABF's trading update on Friday may be difficult to digest.

Rexam wrapped itself into a mess. The paper group fell 13.5p to 182p as the market cast a gloomy eye on Monday's bid for the Swedish packaging group PLM.

The few risers in the mid cap had something odd about them. Lonrho, the mining giant, dug up a 6.4 per cent rise to 322p, but that was the correction of a bargain-price trade (at 302.5p) late on Monday. Similar story for Rank. The leisure group soared 11.5p to 226.5p, putting right a spaghetti-fingered deal the previous day.

Cortecs, one of the biotech strugglers, lost an unhealthy 56.6 per cent to 11.5p after warning of delays to its star products and the demise of its second senior executive in six months. Engineer Turnpyke, down a third to 5p, said tough export markets would slash profits.

Kenwood Appliances, the kettle and chip-frier maker, issued yet another profit warning and saw the shares burn over 15 per cent to

SEAQ VOLUME: 1.14 billion SEAQ TRADES: 75,620 GILTS INDEX: 114.27 +0.33

Investment: Media group remains confident its ONdigital pay-TV venture will pay off

Carlton sounds an upbeat note says goodbye

Pre-tax profits (£m)

Earnings per share (p)

MICHAEL GREEN, the chairman of By PETER THAL LARSEN Carlton Communications, yesterday sounded an upbeat note about ONdigital as the costs of launching the pay-television joint venture dented the media group's full-year prof-

The technology is now established and working well. Early indications are of strong demand from the public," Mr Green said of the 30channel service that was launched two weeks ago.

The set-top boxes required to receive the ONdigital service have been in short demand since the launch. ONdigital claims to have received 300,000 telephone enquiries about the service, but many customers are having to wait to receive

However Philips, the consumer ectronics group, is now producing 2,500 boxes a day for ONdigital while Pace Micro Technology, the specialised manufacturer, expects to

Digital television cost Carlton

plying programming to ONdigital, and losses from Cariton Online, the group's embryonic Internet ven-

The costs helped pull Carlton's pre-tax profits down to £312m, compared to £316m in the year to September 1997. This wiped out growth in the company's television, film and video production divisions although profits at Carlton's products unit, which makes film-editing equipment, more than halved as a result of the Asian crisis and confusion about technological standards for television in the United States. Last year was just the beginning

of Cariton's investment in ONdigital. The company expects to sink a total £150m into the venture over a threeyear period, with the majority of the costs falling next year and the year after. Given that each set-top box carries a £200 subsidy, those losses will have supplied 15,000 boxes by increase if more customers sign up. However, the worry that Carlton

will never see a return on its in-£27.9m in the year to 30 September. vestment is receding now that the This includes its share of ONdigital's service is up and running. "Digital launch expenses, the costs of sup- will have a fairly tough start," said CARLTON COMMUNICATIONS: AT A GLANCE Market value: E4.29bn, share price 478p (-9p) Five-year record Turnover (£bn)

26.10

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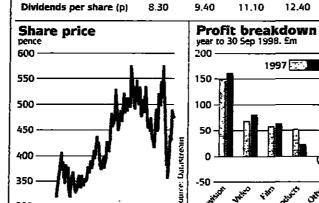
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Anthony de Larrinaga, an analyst at erate growth for Carlton's television should be able to exploit."

WestLB Panmure. "But it has good division - by far its largest business. long-term potential that Carlton Advertising revenues from its ITV If successful, ONdigital will gensure if the economy slows down. said.

Meanwhile, attention has shifted to some of Carlton's other businesses. Mr Green was giving little away yesterday, saying only that the company would "continue to examine the potential for expanding further in media and screen-based entertain-

But yesterday it confirmed to analysts that it is interested in buying Polygram's film library from Seagram in an attempt to cash in on growing demand from television channels for movies. The deal, which would cost Carlton just under \$200m. could be completed in the next few

Meanwhile, the company is still looking to sign up the television rights to sports, especially football, despite breaking off takeover talks with Arsenal last month.

Analysts said that the solid results would help to support Carlton's shares, which have trailed the FTSE 100 index by 10 per cent over the past 12 months, despite mounting a strong rally in recent weeks. "Even though there's no immediate upside the shares should hold their franchises could come under pres- own from now on," one observer

Brunswick to its guru

JOHN WRIGLESWORTH, the country's most widely quoted guru on building societies and mutuality, is parting company with Brunswick just nine months after joining the City spin doctors.

Mr Wriglesworth says his varied interests, which include strategic marketing, writing and broadcasting, didn't really fit in with being a full-time partner at Brunswick. "I agreed with Alan Parker [Brunswick's head] that [these activities] would best be done independently. I will stay on certain

accounts as a consultant," he said. "I have a huge admiration for Brunswick and there has been no

falling out." Mr Wriglesworth resigned as director of strategy and communica-Society in September 1997, after three years extolling the society's (city2000.com). I'm sure somemutual status, as rivals transformed themselves into banks. Before that mulled wine and mince pies he was a building society analyst with UBS, just about the only such analyst in the City.

Bizarrely, Mr Wriglesworth is also a former champion of demutualisation, having drawn up the master plan for Abbey National's conversion into a bank in 1989.

We will probably hear even more of him now he's independent again. Yesterday morning he was on BBC radio, followed by a speaking engagement at a building societies conference in Kensington. "I might even try journalism", he says. Help.

THE CREAM of City financiers were hob-nobbing with Ken Livingstone last night. The bash at the Ironmongers' Hall wasn't to push the newt fancier's claims to being the next Mayor of London, however, but a chance for Britain's film producers to network with potential backers for their next flick.

Over 300 people joined to help launch the Film Finance Forum, chaired by Michael Stoddart of Electra Fleming. The Corporation of London was represented by Judith Mayhew, chairman of the policy and resources committee, and her predecessor in that role. Michael Cassidy, who had a lot to do with setting the Forum up.

The whole thing is very much part

PEOPLE AND BUSINESS By John WILLCOCK

I'M IN DANGER of having a completely "virtual" Christmas. The Wellcome Trust launched an interactive on-line Advent Calendar yesterday, with 24 windows opening at the click of a mouse to reveal a seasonal scene

(www.wellcome.ac.uk). You can also design and send your own virtual Christmas tions at Bradford & Bingley Building cards for free with City 2000, an Internet marketing company one is working on sending across the Net.

> of New Labour's drive to grow Britain's creative industries, and luminaries attending the bash included Harriet Hambro of Hambros, Simon Perry of British Screen Finance and Ray Gallagher, director of communications at BSkyB. Bankers included Len Deeley of Chase Manhattan, Gillian Sheldon

of Credit Suisse First Boston and

Mathias Hink of Dresdner Kleinwort

A TOP BANKER from Merrill Lynch has been appointed the first chairman of the Financial Stability Institute, a body established by the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) to try and repair today's fractured

John G Heimann, 69, still living in his native New York, will retire from Merrill as chairman of global financial institutions on 1 February. The new Institute is the brainchild of the BIS in Switzerland and the Basle Committee on Banking Supervision. Although bringing stability back to world markets may seem like a task worthy of King Canute, Mr Heimann has plenty of weighty credentials, including four years as US Comptroller of the Currency from 1977 to 1981.

Hogg Robinson looks for a buy

HOGG ROBINSON, the corporate BY ANDREW VERITY services group, yesterday said it was seeking further acquisitions in Europe and the Far East to strengthen its outsourcing business as it announced flat half-year profits.

The company said profits for the six months to September were £14.06m, against £14.13m for the he previous year. Profits in its Noregian operations, hit by the slumping oil price, fell by a third.

David Radcliffe, chief executive, said the company, best known as a business travel group, was looking to build its presence in running payrolls and managing employee benefits for its business clients.

In the last six months, Hogg Robinson has spent £36.7m to expand its outsourcing business as it seeks to move away from the volatile commission income associated with business travel. Acquitisions in-

cluded the remaining 70 per cent of Paymaster, a pensions administration business that runs the civil service pension scheme. Since the purchase, Paymaster has already won a contract to handle pensions administration for CGU, the general insurer. The company also bought 51 per cent of Rider Travel in Canada, giving it a leading share of the Canadian business travel market.

Analysts said the company had performed reasonably since September, when it warned that business customers were now looking to buy economy class rather than business class, a trend which impacts on

Shares in the company rose 3p to 208p yesterday valuing Hogg Robinson at £169.8m. Dividends rose 4.4 per cent to 4.25p per share.

the group's commission income.

Kenwood blames profits warning on poor demand

KENWOOD APPLIANCES, the Russell Hobbs kettles and Carmen hair-curiers company, was left vulnerable to a bid again yesterday when it issued its second

profits warning in four months. Shares in Kenwood, which spurned overtures from rival Pifco Holdings last year, fell more than 15 per cent to 0.4p after the comprofits would be "no higher than

those in the first half." The latest in a series of shocks from the group came as Kenwood reported a sharp fall in halfyear profits from £2.2m to £900.000 and passed on the interim divi-

Analysts have revised full-year profit forecasts from £7m down to

on "soft" demand for its key food to lower costs.

By NIGEL COPE **Associate City Editor**

preparation products such as the Kenwood Chef, and lower sales of deep-fat fryers as customers traded down to cheaper goods produced by rivals.

Kenwood has also been affected by turmoil in the Far East pany warned that second-half which has knocked £900,000 from its bottom line. Sales have collapsed in coun-

tries such as Malaysia where locals can no longer afford Kenwood products after the collapse in the local currency.

In response to the problems Kenwood plans to grow its sales by adding 17 new products in the second half.

More production will be Kenwood blamed the problems sourced from China in an attempt

streamlined. Kenwood said it had not held any further talks with Pifco which declined to comment on its intentions.

The distribution network in

continental Europe will be

However, analysts pointed out that with Kenwood shares only falling to 104p, the expected earnings per share this year of just 2p put the share on a stratospheric forward multiple of 51. Pifco may, therefore, wait be-

fore making a move. However, analysts said there was scope for Kenwood to significantly reduce its costs through overseas sourc-To be honest I expected the

shares to fall further than this," one analyst said. "It looks bleak but there is

quite a lot to go for."

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LIFFE FINANCIAL FUTURES

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SPORT

Rugby Union: The Oxford graduate son of a headmaster has taught South Africans discipline and unpredictability

Mallett rights the record Boks



RICHARD WILLIAMS

WHEN THE Springboks won the World Cup at Ellis Park on a sunlit day in 1995, with Nelson Mandela in the grandstand and Chester Williams on the wing, a lot of non-South Africans found it easy to join in the celebrations. Old bigotries were set aside; history's wounds were being healed. But less than two years later, the good work had been undone. The quartet that masterminded the triumph on and off the field - manager Morne du Plessis. coach Kitch Christie, PR man Ed Griffiths and captain François Pienaar - had been blown apart and asunder. After a brief era of enlightenment, control of the world champions appeared to be safely back in the gnarled hands of the

Such suspicions were reinforced when Andre Markgraff, Christie's successor was forced to resign after the publication of a tape recording in which he could be heard voicing casual racist slurs. Under his replacement, the inexperienced Carel du Plessis, morale plummeted as the team produced unrecognisably poor performances against the 1997 Lions and in the Tri-Nations tour-

Enter Nick Mallett, the fast-talking. cosmopolitan Oxford graduate who won the Currie Cup four times as a No 8 forward with Western Province in the 1980s before growing tired of South African attitudes and emigrating to serve his coaching apprenticeship in Italy and France. Mallett's broader horizons turned out to be just what the troubled Springboks needed, and now they stand on the brink of history, aiming for a victory over England at Twickenham on Saturday that would be their 18th in a row, a new world record to erase that of Brian are going to let you down. You just Lochore's All Blacks.

Much has been heard of Mallett's success in transforming his squad from the surly, introverted Boer archetype into a bunch of outgoing, sociable world citizens. But the job began on the pitch, and when we met this week at the team's Mayfair hotel I asked him first of all to identify the keys to the team's tactical evolution.

'I've always believed that the selection is where you start," he said. "You've got to select a side that you believe has the ability to go out and achieve the game plan. You've got to be incredibly disciplined, and you've got to know the rules. South African rugby has often been let down by illdiscipline because the players have been over-motivated and haven't used their brains. They've just piled with uncontrolled aggression. I think we've improved that."

Second, in an emphasis increasingly to be heard among the coaches of the top international sides, comes defence. "You have to get people who make it difficult for the opposition to score. This team has a real defensive bloody-mindedness. You can't go on the field and say 'I want you all to tackle' when you're picking people who palpably can't. You can't have five guys in there who



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mustn't pick them."

Third, and most revolutionary in Springbok terms, is the use of the imagination. "You can't say that we we only play it wide or we only kick it. We try our best to mix it up and make it difficult for opposition sides to defend against us. We want to try to be unpredictable."

Mallett himself has lived anything but a predictable life. Born 42 years ago in Hertfordshire he was six weeks old when his father, a housemaster at Haileybury who sometimes opened the bowling for Kent in the summer holidays and reached the final of the British Open squash tournament, accepted a post as head of the English department at a new school in what was then in, confusing commitment and focus Rhodesia. Seven years later the offer of a headmastership took the family to South Africa.

The memory of A W H Mallett, who died three years ago at the age of 70, is clearly an enduring source of inspiration for his elder son, who read English and history at the University of Cape Town before following his father to Oxford, where he studied polities and philosophy and gained a double Blue for rugby and cricket. "He was a great role model, and it's a big regret that he's not around. My

younger brother is a headmaster, and boks' tour to Argentina, France and to another Afrikaner in a private conhe would have loved that. And he would have enjoyed what's been going on with the rugby."

He certainly imbued his offspring only play it through the forwards or with a love of games - not all of them of the physically confrontational variety. Bridge, for instance, was a family obsession. "I played a lot with my parents, and at school and at Oxford, to a not very high standard, although I got to the semi-finals of the university championships. But I really improved when I was in

Wales, helping restore the unity and morale of a squad torn apart by the rivalries and jealousies that emerged in the wake of the World Cup success.

In Mallett's view, the team had played above themselves to beat a superior New Zealand side, thus arousing unrealistic expectations at home and setting up the players as pawns in the battle between Kerry Packer and Rupert Murdoch. "The

versation. He's a highly educated man, and it was an absolute aberration. But there's no excuse for it, and once it was published he had to resign. Which threw South African rugby into another crisis."

At that juncture Mallett was overlooked in favour of Carel du Plessis, who was given the job "not on coaching ability, because he'd never coached a side before, but more on his personality. He was a God-fearwhole thing fell down like a pack of ing, clean-cut, decent person, and

'The whole thing fell down like a pack of cards and there was a lot of bitterness. Financially it was a total shambles... it had to be resolved'

Jura mountains where he ran a bistro and coached the local rugby club, had a European championship bridge team. "I played for three hours every afternoon for about two years," he explained.

He moved back to South Africa with his wife and two young daughters at around the time of Mandela's election, eventually landing a job as coach to Boland, a provincial side competing in the Currie Cup. In 1996 he was invited to become Andre Markgraff's assistant on the Spring-

France." St-Claude, the town in the cards, and there was a lot of bitter- South African rugby was sick and ness. Financially it was a total shambles, added to which there was real infighting among the players. It all had to be resolved. I came on board as an assistant coach and I felt that it went well and that we'd got over it. It was a cleansing period for South

African rugby." But then came the coach's grotesque downfall, which gave no pleasure to Mailett. "I like Markgraff. He's no more or less racist than any of that type of Afrikaner brought up under those conditions and talking

tired of controversy. I think they didn't trust me, having been overseas and being quite outspoken. I wasn't their cup of tea."

In fact Mallett claims to have learnt his man-management techniques from being "mishandled and mistreated" as a player, not appreciated or listened to by dictatorial coaches. "But by the time they did turn to me there was a sense of relief from the players, from the media. and from the supporters. I really felt

side, the only disappointing element of the current Springbok first team is its all-white complexion (although there are several non-whites in the squad and in the management teams. "Well, it's interesting," he said spiritedly, although his deep-set eyes suggested that he was keeping a feeling of irritation politely under control. "As the rugby coach of South Africa. I'm the only one in the world who is faced with this question. No one asks England or France why there isn't a black guy. In South Africa we happen to have a lot of blacks and coloureds, but rugby has traditionally been a white sport. In the past, when it was an amateur game, you could say, right, we'll stick omeone in - it looks quite good, politically it looks correct, but we're getting to a situation where you're getting paid a salary and players are hired and fired on the results, and therefore I don't think you can start mixing too much up with merit now

"I always answer this question by saying that it's my job to get results for South African rugby and also to make sure that the white people representing the Springbok side are good representatives of South Africa, that they're not bigoted and they aren't arrogant or insular or

at this level.

To the liberal standing on the out- racist, that we come across as being really good ambassadors of South Africa - the whole of South Africa, not one little corner. We're the only national side that sings the anthem from first verse to last - not even the soccer side does that."

For the future. Mallett believes in a programme of affirmative action. "There must be scholarships for children who can't afford to go to a traditional rugby-playing school. I guarantee you I could go out there and get 150 bursaries from the top 30 schools for non-white players, and I'd get any number of businesses to sponsor their fees. Out of 150 maybe we'll get 50, and out of those 50 maybe we'll get 20 into provincial rugby, and out of those 20 maybe we'll get five into a Springbok team. That would be a wonderful thing."

It sounds like the sort of challenge a headmaster's son might relish. "Well, it would be incredibly rewarding." he admitted. "I could think of nothing better than seeing a programme like that through But want to see this through to the World Cup and do a good job. Then I'll take another look. Two years is not a long time in international terms. And at the moment I'm loving it... whatever happens on Sat-

THE SPRINGBOK LEGEND: BENCHMARKS IN THE QUEST FOR SOUTH AFRICAN INVINCIBILITY

1937

1951-52

1995 Dreamtime In

Pienaar's world-beaters Talk about seizing the day. South Africa had been unofficial world champions for much of their rugby-playing history but under the enlightened leadership of a triumvirate of switched-on liberals - Pienaar (right), Kitch Christie and

Johannesburg: François Morne du Piessis - they not only secured the official crown at their first attempt but reinvented the Springbok jersey as a symbol of an inclusive future rather than a divisive past. They did not possess a truly outstanding pack, although the emergence of Os du Randt as a loose-head prop of enormous stature, both physical and metaphorical, helped no end. The back division, inspired by Andre Joubert and Chester Williams, was superb, as was Christie's coaching. A triumph of iron will and self-belief.

Apotheosis at Twickenham? Gary Teichmann's Boks

already recognise these Springboks as a more complete act than their World Cup-winning predecessors, especially now the astonishing Bobby Skinstad (right) has been released from the replacements' bench. Victory over England on Saturday will do more than lend weight to a slice of sporting opinion; it will set down the facts in reinforced concrete. While Brian Lochore's All Blacks of three decades ago won their 17 consecutive Tests over a fouryear period, Teichmann's Boks have done something similar in 16 months: a testament to both their physical and psychological resilience. Supremely functional rather than sublime, they possess genuine game-breakers in Skinstad and Joost van der Westhuizen. The record book awaits them.



Triumpin in New Zealand: The class of Philip Nel

"Skrum, skrum, skrum." The 1937 vintage was not pretty, but pretty rugby never buttered too many parsnips down New Zealand way. There was a fair sprinkling of genius in the back division - Gerry Brand, Tony Harris and Danie Craven (right), inventor of the scrumhalf's dive pass, live on as legends - but when the tourists lost the first match of a three-Test series in Wellington, they turned to their pack for inspiration.

Here was Springbok rugby at its most ruthless: Boy Louw, Jan Lotz, Ferdie Bergh and Lucas Strachan ground out victory in a brutal second Test in Christchurch and then scrummaged their rivals into the Auckland mud to win the decider by a distance. It took the All Blacks another 59 years to get even by winning a series in South Africa.



Supremacy in Europe: Basil Kenyon's team

The greatest Grand Slam side ever to cross the equator? Those who saw them refuse to be persuaded otherwise. An eye injury suffered by Kenyon at Pontypool early in the tour resulted in the captaincy passing to Hennie Muller (right), the so-called "Windhond" of the Northern Transvaal, Together with Basie van Wyk and Stephen Fry, Muller formed a loose combination of immense authority and, with tight forwards of the quality of Jaap Bekker, Chris Koch and Salty du Rand digesting opposing packs for breakfast, lunch and dinner, the three of them were able to run riot across the northern hemisphere. Scotland went down by 44 points, France by 25 and Ireland by 17 - vast margins in an era when a three-point victory was con-

المكذا من الاصل

Pressure on spine of England

حكذا من الاجل

THE SPATE of bad backs that continue to frustrate England's tour is showing no sign of abating. If losing a Test match in two and a half days was not damaging enough to morale, the injury to Graham Thorpe's lumbar region, the latest in an alarming list of players who cannot guarantee their fitness for more than a day at a time, has rounded off a miserable week in Perth. Any more setbacks and the paritans' hotline could well

As the rest of the England squad enjoyed two days off, a breakmany used to take in the

BY DEREK PRINCLE

beach or a round of golf, Thorpe had treatment.

In fact, following some acupuncture on Saturday, he is much improved, and providing

he comes through two workouts, as well as the flight to Melbourne, he will play against Victoria at the weekend. If not, the England management would have little option than to send him home.

backs in cricket were thought

Running, twisting, turning and generally pounding their way through the day, they were the one's that felt the surgeon's

Now, with front-on bowling actions helping to minimise stress fractures, it is the batsmen, perhaps as a result of batting with the extra weight of a helmet, that are keeping osteopaths honest. It is a precarious situation despite the 18-man squad, and if all the batsmen afflicted so far on this tour. Thorpe, Alec Stewart, Michael It was not long ago that bad Atherton, Mark Butcher and Nasser Hussain, happened to

England would be hard pushed to put out a side.

Uncertainty, particularly over injuries, is never a healthy way to visit Australia, one of the more demanding tours in terms of travel and intensity. These days there are fewer opportunities to recover fully and you have to be fit and robust enough to tour, as well as bat.

Thorpe's current problem has apparently nothing to do with the one he had last summer, when a cyst was removed from his lower back. According to the England physio, Wayne Morton, the exertions of the

to be exclusive to bowlers. wake up crocked together, first Test, plus the seven-hour flight to Perth, simply aggravated a back still finding its way back to full fitness.

One man's misfortune is another's opportunity, however, and Graeme Hick's upgrade to full party membership, after flying over as cover for Michael Atherton in Brisbane, is yet another chance for him to resurrect a flagging career.

With Thorpe not fit for the Waca, Hick notched up his 50th Test. It was mixed affair, not unlike the man himself, and a first-innings duck was followed by a savage 68, the highest

Providing England continue using seven batsmen, and Thorpe recovers in time for the next Test, Hick will have overtaken John Crawley in the reckoning for a berth in Adelaide. Considering that Crawley was picked in place of him after both scored hundreds against Sri Lanka, it is a cruel irony and one that will do noth-

"Graeme played positively and took the attack to the Australians," said the England manager, Graham Gooch. "It was the right thing to do in the circumstances.

ing for the Lancastrian's con-

Mind you, we had essentially lost the match on the first innings. If we had scored 250 first up, it would have been a good

Hick is not alone here as most of England's batsmen have tended to save their best for when England have been virtually out of the match. It is a habit, which apart from being futile, must be broken if Australia's dominance is to be challenged.

To have a realistic chance of levelling the series, England need to get first-innings runs and take their catches. All other means are superfluous.

Hopes are high for two divisions

BY DAVID LLEWELLYN

IN LESS time than it takes an England side to lose an Ashes Test, 110 years of County Championship tradition is likely to go out the window. The 18 firstclass counties and Marylebone Cricket Club meet over the next two days at Lord's to decide among other things whether the competition first set up in 1890 should enter the 21st century as a two-divisional

Last year the concept of a two-tier championship was thrown out; this time around the indications are that many have changed their minds and the summer of 2000 should see a new-look competition.

Tim Lamb, chief executive of the England and Wales Cricket Board said yesterday: "The indications are that there are more counties in favour now than there were a year ago. Counties generally feel a little bit more comfortable with the idea."

But it is not cut and dried. The Kent secretary, Brigadier Stuart Anderson, sounded a warning note last night when he said: "I think the majority view from Kent is likely to support a two-tier competition, but it is conditional." And those conditions would be firstly, an equal share of ECB funds regardless of which division a county was in, and secondly, that existing registration regulations remained in place, thus discouraging players from gravitating to first division counties and denuding the lesser lights of all vestiges of talent.

There is also a proposal to change the points awarded in the Championship to encourage sides to fight harder for at least a draw. The proposal is for a win to be worth just 12 points – a reduction of four from the present 16. A draw would increase in value by one to four points, with batting and bowling bonus points remaining the same.

There is the tricky question of England players being contracted to the ECB: counties will be keen to know how great winners.



graph featured a mock back

Stewart, complete with rabbit's heads and ears. Under the headline "Rabbit Stew" and unflattering refer-

ages, the paper also claims Australian bowlers feast on England's bunnies." The Telegraph claimed that post of the England batsmen ere "so psychologically shat-

purists were "markedly infe-Pior" to the Australians and that it was only by luck that they

THE ENGLAND team have been lampooned as "rabbits" in the Australian press after their seven-wicket defeat in the

page picture which showed batsmen Mike Atherton, John Crawley and the captain, Alec

ences to the trio's Test aver-

Stewart did turn up.

tered by Australia's Ashes dominance yesterday they could

not look their tormentors in the

The paper also claimed that most England players snubbed an invitation for a drink in the Australian dressing-room although Atherton, Mark Ramprakash, Graeme Hick and

Melbourne's Herald Sun said the Perth Test proved the

The Age reported: "Certainthe Pom bashing thanks to the ly England did have their mosyndicated column of the former ments in this remarkable Somerset captain Peter Roethree-day Test but their probbuck. He wrote: "The distance lem was that they could not between the sides did not appear as great. The seven-wicket win-

Shane Warne will miss Victoria's game with England this weekend. Australia's leg-spinner, recovering from the shoulder operation he had in May, has no intention of risking him-

ing in Melbourne on Saturday. "There's nothing to be gained by playing against the Poms when I'm still only half fit," he said. "I want to have a go at the

England's 'rabbits' as portrayed in the Sydney Daily Telegraph after the Perth defeat. From left: Mike Atherton, John Crawley and Alec Stewart Sydney Daily Telegraph

fully worked out programme, designed to get me back into Test cricket. "Why should I let the Poms have a go at me when I am honestly nothing like Poms in this Ashes series but 100 per cent spot on with my

not having my full repertoire together yet. I only want to play against England when I can send down the same bag of the financial compensation

SPORTS LETTERS

Post letters to Sports Desk at I Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL and include a daytime telephone number. Faxes to 0171 293 2894 or e-mail to sport@independent.co.uk E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be edited for length and clarity

Short-term memory loss

Sir: In the pandemonium surrounding Arsenal's exit from the Champions' League, many newspaper articles have blamed Arsene Wenger for selling Ian Wright and not strengthening his squad.

You don't have to be a shrewd Arsenal supporter to recognise that Arsenal would never have won the Premiership with Ian Wright in the team. His style of play encouraged the longer ball game - a game that we have seen is woefully inadequate nowadays. While manager, Bruce Rioch tried to sell Wright and met with supporter (and allegedly board) annoyance. Does it not say something about the respect that Wenger commands that he faced no opposition when he sold Wright only one and a haif years later?

This year's pre-season transfer merry-go-round saw newspapers criticising "player power", "over-inflated transfer fees" and "player wage demands". Wenger made a stand against player demands, and Patrick Kluivert was criticised for wanting \$40,000 per week. Yet now, hypocritically, newspaper artieles conclude that Wenger was wrong not to buy him. · Are the press and SUP-

porters so fickle that, late goals in Champions' League games together with recent poor performances, mean the scrutiny of Wenger's judgement? Was 16 May 1998 such a long time ago? GARY JACOB, Oxford

Referees must improve too

Sir. Clayton Thomas of Wales does international regby no favours by the manner in which he con-

ducted last weekend's Test match between Ireland and South Africa. All one wants from a ref is consistency fairness in the application of the rules and a desire to reward constructive rugby so that this great game should be truly entertaining. When he reviews the video of his performance he will surely realise he failed on all

string them together."

Northern hemisphere rugby has learned many lessons in the last six months and has improved enormously to the point where they are able to compete and, probably, win again in the near future against the southern hemisphere sides. This kind of help, though, will do their cause no good in the long term. ROGER CLOSE

District blend key to future

Sir: I thoroughly agree with Kenny Milne's comments about the need for a "bridge" to be constructed between Scottish club rugby and the two Scottish super districts.

The Scottish Rugby Union should rename the two super districts - Caledonia and Reivers - and continue their development as planned in both a British League and the European Cup. However, the SRU should

also re-establish the Inter-District Championship with the four old districts - Glasgow, Edinburgh, North and Midlands and the South. If the make-up of these four teams was split between the best of the players in club rugby and the fringe squad players of the two super districts then the matches could be used as trials by the SRU. This platform would help them decide

which players were ready to step up to or to remain in the following season's super district squads. This could be done very effectively and fairly by limiting each dis-

one time. This mix would, I believe, help achieve what all Scottish rugby supporters want to see - a stronger and more successful international

trict to four professionals

backs) on the pitch at any

(two forwards and two

ROBERT D KILGOUR Joint Chief Executive, main sponsors of Kirkealdy RFC

Whip – getting it straight

Somerset West, South Africa Sir. The views of Mr Brunton (Letters, 27 November) on the use of the whip in horse racing are sadly misguided. The whip is not used as a weapon by jockeys, but as a necessary tool of his trade. Thoroughbred horses are invariably temperamental and a simple wave of "the stick" keeps them from veering off a straight line.

Racing without whips would end in farce and would certainly not be a true test of either horse or rider. Leave it to the professionals, Mr Brunton. ALISON MASKELL Aylesbury

Blossoming of Tudor ignored

Sir: Having read Derek Pringle's report on the second Ashes Test Match in Perth, I am astounded, amid all his doom and gloom about English cricket, he chose not to mention the performance of Alex Tudor. Local commentators praised the young man's efforts and predicted that England would have a first-class pace

attack for the future, teaming Tudor with Darren Gough and Alan Mullally.

Although not an England supporter, I believe I speak for many Australians when I say that the state of English cricket does nothing for the Ashes series and less for the game internationally.

The structure of the game in your country needs a make-over and the selectors must be prepared to blood young players at the top level. In Australia, competitive cricket is played at all levels from the age of about 10 and it stays that way until they are adults. A wander around the club grounds on a Saturday afternoon will reveal why Australian cricket is so successful. The standard of the fielding alone indicates that we play the game to win. W N STEPHEN

Offside and off the wall

Victoria, Australia

Sir. Rakesh Chhabra (Letters, 11 November) is right about the harm done by the offside rule. My suggestion for reform goes like this: Offside will only be given if the defending team appeal for it and the linesman agrees; it is punishable by a direct freekick to the attacking team (obviously), from the point where the last defender was standing at the time of the offence (or if this was in the penalty area, a penalty kick). A defender guilty, in the referee's opinion, of "persistent offsiding" may be shown the yellow card, and in extreme

cases the red one. If the administrators really believed in the present rule, they would have instructed referees that players who persisted in being caught offside must be sent off. BOB NEWMAN Epsom, Surrey

WIN AN EVENING WITH SOME OF YOUR PORTING HEROES AND A-

The Independent and the Australian Tourist Commission have teamed up to offer one lucky reader and a friend or partner the chance not only to dine with some of Britain's most famous sporting heroes at the Sports Writers Association Annual Dinner at the London Hilton on Monday 14th December, but also the opportunity to fly to Sydney and visit the

The 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney are set to generate unprecedented levels of interest. More than anything, Australians are famous for their obsession with sport. The continent has established its reputation as a leading sporting nation and is host to some of the world's most prestigious sporting events. So there's never been a better time to head Down Under and discover what Australia has to offer. Sportsworld, the British Olympic Associations appointed tour operator, has provided the winner with six nights' accommodation in a twin room and two event tickets. Sportsworld has a comprehensive range of programmes from fully inclusive packages to flight and ticket options. Call Sportsworld for full

Qantas Airways is providing two return tickets to Sydney. For nearly 80 years, Qantas has been taking its passengers safely and comfortably to their destinations - with a relaxed confidence and friendliness that are unique to Australia. By the year 2000 the entire Qantas international fleet will have been upgraded - providing new levels of comfort never before been experienced inflight.

The independent have selected 6 sporting personalities from those previously honoured over the past 50 years - all you have to do is to vote for one of the athletes who in your opinion has contributed the most to their sport. Phone the number opposite the name listed below and tell us on the line the reason for your selection and leave your name, full address and a daytime telephone number. You could be the lucky winner who receives a pair of tickets to the Sports Writers Association Dinner and your trip to the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games.

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1) Calls cost 60p per minute and should last no longer than two minutes. 2) Winners will be picked at random after the lines close at midright on Sunday 6 December 1998.

3) Tickets are not transferable, there are no substitute prizes or cash alternatives. 4) Normal independent rules apply. 5) The Editor's decision is final. 6) All entrants must be aged 18 or over and have a valid passport and visa to travel. 7) Open to residents of the UK, Republic of Ireland and the Channel Islands, excluding employees of Independent Newspapers, Cantas Airways or Sportsworld Group PLC, their families, their agencies or any other company directly connected with the administration of this competition. 8) On entering this competition contestants are deemed to have accepted and agreed to be bound by the competition rules. Entry instructions form part of the rules. 9) The prize consists of 2 economy class rickess London - Sydney - London. The prize winner and their partner must travel together for the whole journey, insurance is not included but must be provided.

10) All Bookings subject to availability. Once booked no changes to be made without the consent of Quntas and without payment of the relevant charge. II) Outbound flights must be taken during September 2000 inclusive. IZ) Flights are subject to Quntas's Terms and Conditions of carriage and availability. B) Exact travel data, accommodation and event tickets to be stidied to final sugmenters between Scortsworld and order winners.





For a traveller's guide call 0990 022 000

New course for Kelleway

THE COMPLETE Book of Trainers' Excuses - already one of the largest volumes in print is about to receive a new entry. When a well-fancied runner is no more than a dozen horses. In beaten on the all-weather at Britain it is a relatively new idea. Lingfield this winter by one of Gay Kelleway's inmates, its famous name to give it a try. handler will be able to take the owners aside and explain that. just as in football, it is always difficult for visitors to get a result against the home side.

From this week, every meeting at Lingfield Park will be a home fixture for Kelleway and her string, which is in the process of moving from the lavishly appointed, but somewhat inaccessible, training complex at Whitcombe Manor in Dorset. The Surrey commuter belt, just a few miles from the M25, may never be as picturesque as the West Country, but for Kelleway it represents the logical next step in a training career which has already

shown immense promise. Preparing horses on a racecourse, rather than in a remote country yard, is standard practice in the United States, where the back-stretch barns are so ble at all times.

By GREG WOOD

economical to run that a trainer can make a good living with and Kelleway is by far the most

Her new yard adjoins the far side of Lingfield's all-weather track, where several of her runners went through their paces

RICHARD EDMONDSON Nap: Hopeful Lord (Catterick 2.00) NB: Gorman (Plumpton 1.10)

in front of their owners yesterday. A new seven-furlong woodchip gallop is also available, but it is the course itself where much of the training will take place. There will be 40 horses to begin with, and as their trainer says with typical enthusiasm, plenty of them are for sale".

There will be no dramatic changes to Kelleway's training regime, which relies on keeping horses as relaxed as possí-

"The key to training them on the track is not to overdo them." she says, "because they're racing on a regular basis. There's plenty of walking, and you allow them to relax and enjoy the race-track and enjoy cantering around. The most important thing of all with racehorses is to have them right mentally. You can have morning glories [horses which do not reproduce their gallops form on the track), and this is going to suit that sort of horse. They're very happy where they are and when they run they're still sweet. It will be

training was Nick Littmoden. and while he is in the process of moving from Wolverhampton to Julie Cecil's old yard in Newmarket, another resident of Headquarters, Mark Polglase, is about to take up residence in purpose-built barns at Southwell Lingfield, too, has plans for barns on the course, while two more trainers should eventually be accommodated at a former fruit farm next door to Kelleway's new yard.

One of the first trainers to

make a success of trackside

a big advantage."



Gay Kelleway watches her horses go through their paces yesterday at Lingfield racecourse, her new training base

would also form part of a new be that if any one of the halftrack at Thurrock, east of London, which Arena Leisure. Lingfield's owners, is currently seeking BHB approval to build.

On-site training facilities The feeling at Arena seems to dozen current proposals for new courses is to get the nod surroundings, although she from the authorities, it will be

Kelleway to tweak the daily arrangements to suit her new points out that "I know every

It may take a few weeks for what they want, and now I'll be around them all the time." On the bare evidence of yesterday's brief gallop, Opera Buff, who is

iy. He runs at Wolverhampton 🎘 today and then in a £10,000 Showcase race at Lingfield next week, and seems sure to

points out that "I know every already something of a course horse individually and I know specialist, has settled in quick-for Kelleway this winter.

CATTERICK

HYPERION

1.00 Sleeting

3.00 Ham N'Eggs 2.00 CELTIC DUKE (nap) 3.30 Twenty Winks

GOING: Good (Good to Firm in places).

List-hand, undutaing sharp course, Not suitable for long-striding horse. Flun-in 240yds.

Course is NW of lown on A6786. Darlington station 14m - bus service to course.

ADMISSION: Club 2n: Tattersells £7; Course £2.50 (under 16s free into all enclo-

ADMISSION: Cub IT!: latterses Er; Course E220 junior no new and a recovery of the Parker Reserved area 22 remainder free ELEADING TRAINERS: Mrs M Reveley 21 wins from 90 numbers (23.3%), M Hammond 5-116 (12.9%), Mrs S Smith 12-80 (15%), G M Moore 10-66 (15.2%) ELEADING JOCKEYS: P Niven 25 wins from 81 notes (30.9%), R Garritry 13-70 (18.6%), A S Smith 12-82 (14.6%), B Storey 12-132 (21.6%).

FAVOURITES: 114 wins from 321 races (355%). BUNKEREO FIRST TIME: Harkness Warrior (130), Kings Sermon (200), Millernium Man

-		RICHMONDSHIRE CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDL
]	.00	RICHMONDSHIRE CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDI- CAP HURDLE (E) 23,000 2m 3f Penalty Value 22,458
,	01-822	JESSICA ONE (34) (CD) (BF) (W H Stranson) Mrs M Reveloy 7 12 0 M H Neughton
2	069F40	KEEP CLEAR (77) (Cleveland Partylerstra) C Grant 8 11 7 C McCommack
3	12324	GRANGE IMP (191) (Ats P A G Haggle) J FitzGerald 5 11 1 J Tizzard
٤	96-320	ANDY'S LAD (11) (F Murphy) F Murphy 6 to 13
5	642.0	VICTOR LASZLO (59) (1 G M Dalglesh) R Alten 6 TO TO
5		CONTRAFIRE (26) (J. J. Elict) A Whitans 6 to 12
7		TALATHATH (FR) (18) (D) (J W P Cures) J Cures 6 to 11
3	33.276	HOH EXPLORER (21) (Sehre Record) D Barker 4 10 15 N Hannity (5)
,	305-JP	SCARROTS (6) (A A Pedrale) S Golinos 4 10 10
10	2432-0	FRYUP SATELLITE (11) (CD) µl Leese) W/s J Brown 7 to to B Grattan
Ħ		MELTASARRIF (17) (F V Whee) J Docks 5 to to L Cooper (5)
2		SLEETING (66) (C Moore) J Madde 5 to 10 E Hosband V
ß		ONYOUROWN (19) (G F Bear) J H Johnson 5 to 10
ų£.		NORMAN CONOLEST (USA) (6) (6 & K Associates) M Hammond 4 to 8 N Homodis
6	05-345	GOLDEN THUNDERBOLT (FR) (11) (P Lever) H Alexander 5 to 5
6		LUMBACK LADY (11) (J Mckenich) B Mactaggart 8 to 1 G Lee
7	185300	ZINGIBAR (20) (D) (O Holpin) J M Bradley 6 10 0
В	154200	
ø	0616F0	OCTAVIA HILL (16) (BF) (M G Ridley & Partners) J M Bradley 5 10 0
9		TEN PAST SIX (6) (J S Kennerley and Mess J Hall) M Wane 6 10 (R Wilkinson V
1	000-0	PORTER PADDY (6) (Mrs 8 Lungo) L Lungo 6 10 0 W Dowling
	_	- 21 declared -
m	num werd	ht, 10st. True handigap weight: Gay Galant 3st 11th, Octovia Hill 9st 8th, Ten Past Str 9st
	A	at a res.

2b; Abrier Pacidy 8st 6tb BETTING: 5-1 Jessica One, ?-1 Andy's Lad, 5-1 Onyourown, 10-1 Fryup Satellite, Golden Thun-derholl, 12-1 Orange Imp. Victor Lassin, Controline, Mutassamif, Sleeting, Octavia Hill, 14-1 others 1997 Craigary 5 m 3 B Grattsin 3-1 fav (Alirs A Swinbank) 7 run

FORM GUIDE

Jessica One: Three-time scorer last term, latest from 3th lower. Returned to from when neck 2nd of 12 to Sharp Command at Sedgefield (2m 5 incap hole), Go close Keep Clean; Placed over tences in Ireland for Paddy Mulins in the summer but well heaps over: Pacid over acless in head to Pacidy where it the summer our was beaten over hurgles at Fairytouse in September on bases start. First run for new yard Orange Imp: Heinham novice hurgle winner in March. Closely weighted with Jessica One on later Sedgetield numming but lacks recent outing. Worth a check in the betting Andy's Lad: Weighted to go close on Towcester running and 8 lengths 2nd to Bowles Patrol at Cartisle (2m 4f) but shorter trip and sharp track are a worry.

Victor Laszlo: Found his feet late last term with Perth win and Keiso length 2nd to Sandabar from 10th lower Below form on return but longer trip and fast going will help. Contralirer: Hecham 2m winter from 2b lower in March but below form this term, 15 lengths 5th of 11 to Just Lizzpe at Herham (2m, heavy), Faster going here will suit. Talashtath: On the side since leaving David Nicholson last term and little encouragement in latest tailed off 8th of 10 to Tashteet at Market Rasen (2mt), soft). High Explorer: Badly out of sorts in two outings since neck 2nd to Good Day at Perth

Noh Explorer: Badly out of sorts in two outrings since neck 2nd to Good Day at Perth (2m 4f, firm) in August. Faster ground here may help, but hard to fancy Scientotis. En-Nicky Henderson, Looked a lading broze last term and has not shown much lately, pulling up in race work by Sporadic Mesale at Untoxethy latest Frytup Safetilitie: C/D winner from 7th lower two years ago. Returning to smaller obstacles after senes of far efforts in nowce chases. Difficult to assess Mutlassamif: On a useful mark on 7 lengths Cartinel win over Charmwood Jack last backend. Disappointing on soft latest but could be major tactor here with going to suit Steeting: Improving last backend and creditable 16 lengths. 4th of 14 to Mirross at Huntingdon (2m 4f nov hosp hide) latest. Reasonably treated and has going to suit Onyourowin: Easy Nelso winner from 3th lower in March. Appeared to improve when, made most, 4 lengths 3rd off 5 to Woodfield Gale at Newcastle (2m4f hosp hofe) latest, but could be filtered in stowly-run race, Jamie Spenora interesting booking Norman Conquest: Yet to reproduce last season's promising Wetherby debut form, although respectable 2nd to Rossel at Kelso in October. Others preferred.

atmoogn respectable and to house at Area in October, curries pretented. Golden Thunderbolt: Looks liefly to benefit from longer trip after one-paced 8 lengths 5th of 18 to Micris at Cattenok (2m nov hoap hide). Each-way prospect. Lumback Lady: Inconsistent Weighted with chance on 15 lengths 6th to Salinger in better class at Sedgefield (2m 18 in May but needs to step up on C/D responsance Zingthair. Failed to live up to early-season promise over tences but encouraging return to smaller obstacles when 4's lengths 7th of 16 to Vicar's Vase at Taunton (2m 3f mat hotel build). Certained to the control of tences but the control of th

aum to straiger observes when 4 is lengths /m or to to vicar's vase or laumon jorn or amatincap hole). Capable of taling a hand Gay Gallant: Wagiths pick on his 5 lengths 2nd to Mimosa at Huntingdon (2m 44 good to firm) in September. Below form on eather ground since but live outsider. Octavia Hill: Plumpton (2m 11 firm) winner in Octabler and very unlusty less-flight feler at Easter last month. Deappointing in binkers latest start but cannot be dismissed. Ten Past Site. Respectable 13 lengths 4th to Donnybrook at Wetherby (2m, soft) in October but disappointing since and little obvious chance from out of the handicap. Parter Partic Particip. ious sign of ability. Talled off from 4 out when 7th of 10 to Bawara at Cerisle (2m 1f nov hcap hole) last month

VERDICT: An excentionally inchy handicap, but the booking that takes the eye is Jame Spencer for ONYOUROWN, it is possible he was fightered by latest running, but the chance is worth taking with Howard Johnson's team back in form. Jessica One, Andry's Lad. Matasarrif, Sleeting, Zingibar, Gay Galant and Octavita Hill are just a few of the other possibilities.

THE COUTON SELLING HANDICAD HURDLE ICLASS G

ı	1 30	5CONTON SELLING HANDICAP HUNDLE (CLASS 6) 52.000 added 2m Pensity Value \$1.614
١	1.00	£2,000 added 2m Penaity Value £1,614
ι	F-P060	KATTYMANN (95) (D) (P Campbell) B Elison 6 12 0
2	6040-	HIBERNATE (254) (Crapsice Contractors) J H Johnson 4 # 2 D Paries
3	-2580C	HARDNESS WARRIOR (USA) (13) (B Rothwell) B Rothwell 4 10 10
4	FO/P6	
5	20-5P0	PANOGRAS LORD (11) (G R Breto J Warrangte 4 to 6
6		ONE STOP (18) (M Braman) M Barnes 5 to 6
7		NERONIAN (210) (J.R. Feetherstone, D.R. Bird) J.H. Johnson 4 to 6 C. McCommack (5)
٥		LAY THE BLAME (F25) (BF) U D Gordon/E C Gordon) M Hammond 5 t0 4_B Harding
ğ		EUROTWIST (13) (CD) (P I Harter) G A Harter 9 104
i		LORD PAT (13) (The L.P Club) Miss K Milliogn 7 104
í		FUNTLOCK (50) (D) (R V Jackson) H Alexander 8 TO 0
		MILLING BROOK (274) (Marryn James) J.M. Bradey 6 100 S Durack
		BROADGATE FLYER (13) (D) (D A Lambert) D Lamb 4 10 0 Mr J Crowley (7)
	P60P00	
	P23005	
		LOCATE MAL (11) In a strategy top of variation of a resident of the strategy o
1		ROYAL CIRCUS (F15) (D) IP W Harth P Hart 9 TO 0 E Husband
	\$ 2524/P	
į	9 50-000	MEMBERS WELCOME (6) (CO) (W Trang) W Trining 5 10 0
		≥ 19 decisred =

Minimum weight: 10st. True handicap weights: Eurikk The Rebell Set 12b, Squim's Cocasion Set 11b, Public Way Set 10b, Royal Circus Set 90, Wycliffe Set 3b, Members Welcome Set 7b. BETTING: 7-2 Lay The Blame, a-1 Lord Pat, 11-2 Harbress Warrtor, 12-1 Squim's Occasion, 14-1 Hiberniste, Dorans Wey, 16-1 Pasocoras Lord, Netostan, Eurotwist, Royal Circus, 20-1 others 1997. Albernise 8 tt 6 Nr O McPhall (7) 13-2 (R Judies) € ran

FORM GUIDE Kathymann: Looks a cut above selling class on Dundalk 6th to Ashjar in August, but has since changed hands and leturns from 14-week lay-off. Acts on fest ground Hilbernate: Roger Chariton cast-off. Showed some ability when 23 lengths 4th of 11 Hilbernade: Hoger Crainton cast-ont Showed some ability when 23 lengths 4th of the Segale at Musealburgh (2n, good to lirm) in February but plenty to do at the weights Harkness Wantfor. Signs of ability in toland but much improved when 3t/s lengths 2nd of to to Lord Pat at Segaleted (2nd if self hose holds, good to soft) for new connections. Acts on last ground and every chance at the weights. Dorens Way: Showed a little ability in two outings for Martin Todhunter last season but has since changed hands and has a bough task at the weights. Panocras Lord: Placed in minor company last season, including a seller. Signs of return to form when its lengths. 7th of 18 to Monts over (70 latest, Possibilities. One Stop: Some ability when 17 lengths 6th to Orange Imp at Hexham in March but tame next start and well beaten behind Noshinamilan at Newcastle on return Neronians First signs of ability when 8 lengths thrid to Reads at Musselburgh in Feb-niary but fittle else to recommend him and has long ley-off to overcome. Lay The Blazine: Improved form when 6 lengths 2nd to Eastern Project in Parth non-seller (2m. good to firm) in June, Copable of taking hand but returning from lay-off Europhrists Has not shown much for a long white and storn faded when 2s lengths 8th of 16 to Lond Pat at Sadgefield (2m1) sell hosp hale, good to soft) last month. Lord Pat: Maintained recent improvement when led 2 out, beat Harkness Warrior 3'/-lengths at Sedgetfeld (2m1t sell hosp hille, good to soft). Closely weighted with run-ner-up but unknown quantity on fast ground

rempts at Secgened (2mt) set incap mole, good to sort, occasive respirate with runner-up but unincrown quantity on fast ground.
Finishocic Cartmel winner early last season. Plasspeciable effort at Sedgefield and Perfir
in summer but little sparkle latest start and one to have reservations about.
Milling Brook: Emitted to consideration on hurdles form 2 seasons ago, but has been
chasing since and is difficult to lancy other 274-day lay-off
Broedgate Phyer: Meets Lord Pat 14th better for 18 lengths on Sedgefield form in October but unreliable and ran badly over the same course on latest start.
Eurolink: The Reibel: Market Resen winner two seasons ago but on the side since
and hard to lancy on latest 24 lengths 7th of 18 to Lord Pat at Sedgefield
Squire's Occasion: Winner of 4-runner race at Ludlow last season but showing little
lately and beaten 27 lengths when 5th of 9 to Mared at Falsenham in October
Public Way: Signs of inprovement when 19 lengths 8th of 18 to Mons at Catterick
(2m now heap halle) but still plenty more to find
Royal Gircus: Fading fonce, returning from unhappy foray at chasing. Up against it at
the weights on 4 lengths 5th to Adilov at Forwall (2m 21, good to firm) in September.
Wycilfie: Showyed none of his old spark after long lay-off when bailed off from halfway
and pulled up in Lord Pats race at Sedgefield last month.
Members Welcome: C/D winner in January from 3th higher but has shown nothing

bers Welcome: C/D winner in January from 385 higher but has shown nothing

VERDICT: The improvement shown by Lord Pat and HARKNESS WARRIOR at Sedgefield last time puts them clear of the field. There may be more to come from Bri-an Rothwell's ex-kitsh younglest, now that he is acclimated, and he is entitled to the yote in view of his proven ability on last ground. Paranders Lord, who east on the course, and the in-form Micky Hammond's Lay The Blame look the pick of the rest.

2.00 49'S HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) £10,000 added 3m 1f 110yds Penalty Value £7,588 11-PSR JAMATY O'DEA (11) (01) IS Harlow) J Neickel 11 (20) TO STATE Husband V 2P1-FF STRONG HOXES (11) (11) Howard Librarious Transcription of the Company of the Company

•	מעדע	ק ל מוצור ה ייי ייי ייי ייי מיור כי מולדיית ו ליו למוצור ו ביל לכו <i>ו</i> מוצוי ו ייי ייי ייי מיור בי מודוד או מוצור הייי מיור וויי מיוד מ
4	1UP2U-	DARK CAK (215) (CD) (BF) (Mrs M & Curter) J Curter 12 11 4
5	234-13	GAELIC BLUE (19) (D) (BF) (7 Hammings) Mrs S Smith 8 11 4
6	273-54	RADICAL CHOICE (7) (CD) (G A Charlon) J Charlon 9 11 3
7	031-14	SUPPLEME SOVIET (18) (Campbel/Harrow/Richardson) A Whitans 8 11 2 A Dobbit
В	32-U24	RUSTIC AIR (22) (Mrs G M Sturges) J FitzGerald 11 10 18
9	2m-5	STAGE FRIGHT (19) (Mrs J Dyde and J D Gordon) F Murphy 7 10 13 C D'Dwyer i
TO	25-211	HOPEPUL LORD (6) (D) (P Pilet) J J C'Neil 6 10 11 (7ex)
Ħ	27670	KINGS SERIMON (26) (D) (Mrs P A H Harriey) P Beaumont 9 10 10
12	35740	PMK GIN (292) (D) (Mrs M Francis) M Meagher 11 10 8
13		GALE FORCE (22) (G Diger) P Beaumont 7 to 8
14	P544-4	PEBSLE BEACH (74) (D) (Pebbig Beach Piship) G M Moore 8 10 6 Callagha
15	0U21F5	THE MAN (13) (D) (A Sack) Mrs D Sayer 7 10 6
15	363-C	CELTIC DUKE (12) (T Henrings) M Hammond 6 10 5 B Harding
17	UF42-0	ANOTHER VENTURE (13) (C) (Northern Boys) F Murphy 8 10 5 Mr J P McNantara (5)
16	P163-2	ARCTIC FOX (70) (CD) (BF) (J Mitchell) Mrs M Reveloy 6 10 4
8	585-3P	GALEN (13) (Mrs T E Starrato Mrs M Bensley 7 10 4
20		D'ARISLAY STREET (13) (D) (Green For Luck) W Kemp 9 (0 1 Mr J Crowley (7) E
21	/32·3U	GERMAN LEGEND (13) (D G Pryde) D Lamb 8 10 1
22	V2-45	KAPREMASTIMO (18) (CD) (ERF) (Mass J Wood) Mrs S Smith 7 to 0 P. Williamson (5

BETTING: 6-1 Hopeful Lord, 7-1 Celtic Date, 10-1 Arctic Fox, 11-1 Geelic Blue, Radical Choice, Supreme Soviet, Strong Hicks, 12-1 Stage Fright, 14-1 Kemelesting, 18-1 Gale Force, Galen, Rus-Supreme Soviet, Strong Hicks, 12-1 Stage Fright, 14-1 Kernestina, 18-1 Gale Force, Gal für Air, 20-1 Another Venture, Kings Sermon, Share Command, 25-1 others 1997: Dark Calk 11 11 4 R Thornton (3) 16-1 (J Curtis) 8 ran

FORM GUIDE

Jimmy O'Des: In good form last season when he won 3 times from 5 cutings. Was having his first race for 8 weeks when refusing at the 17th last month and best watched naving us institute to a weet much place in a superior of the lead in first time blink-strong Hicks: Inconsistent in Ireland, but was going well in the lead in first time blink-ars when he fell in the Becher Chase at Antree less month. A long way out of the hand-

icap then and sound chance here Sharp Command: Returns to fences after 2 runs over hundles, Never going well after novice stage
Dark Calc Won over the course and distance in December, but lost his way eiter that
and tailed to complete in 3 of his next 4 outings. Usually needs first race of the session.

ello Blue: Found an easy race when winning on his reappearance and was unbecause cause: "Custor an easy race when warrang on his feappearance and was unable to follow up under a penalty. Falled to win last season and this is competitive Radical Choicea: Promising run on his reappearance in October and kept on well when a close 4th over an madequate 21/m at Hesham last week. Longer trip will sut Supreme Soviet: Improving chaser. Easy winner at Pertin (good to firmt) in June and was having his first run since then when 4th to Chapped Out at Ayr (soft) last month. Fast ground vary much in his favour. Rustic Air; Modest form around the smaller courses and was never able to do the

petier gamg Hopeful Land: Has improved for Jonjo O'Nell this season to win novice handicap chasreopeal Lorer is supprised for Jone I was season to with review rearrance of testers at Unioners and Market Resen. Harder task with a 7th penalty here Kings Semmon: Has shown no sparkle in 2 runs this season. Binkered first time, and well handicapped with Dark Dak (7th better off for 1'/ langths), but stable out of form Pink Gin: First run for new yard. Talled off in most of his outings for Mickay Hammond last season and best watched here, despite furnising down the handicap Galle Force: Ran as if he needed the outing on his reappearance last month. Won 2 routes disease last season and best watched here, the handle the handle is necessarily used to season. novice chases last season and though he looks the type to progress his yard is going

Pabble Blasch: Ran well until 3 out when 5th on his return in September. Won at Herham last season, but deseptionfied on his next 5 outpigs and does not look good enough
in The Man: Needs a stiff test of stamins and his won twice at Hextram. Found 3in
3i ideal when successful at Sedgefield in October and shorter fro may be against him
Cettle Dulke: Won a novice chase at Porth in June and was having his first race since
then when a close 3rd at Ascot last morth. Looks a progressive son!
Another Ventures Still a maiden over jumps and ran his best race last season when
2nd to Linden's Lotts over 3/m at Newcasta. No show on his reappearance
Arothe Post Modest form over hurdles and an unsesy tavourile on chasing debut at
Perth in September when 2nd to Commander Glan. Looks bot inepoetenced for this
Galart: Not one to trust and almost reliused to start when pulled up less time Won a
novice chase at Sedgefield (3m 3f) last season and needs plenty of driving along
D'Arblay Street: Front-rurner, who has won 3 times at Sedgefield. Pan his best race
so far this season when 4th there last time, but this looks narder ach: Ran well until 3 out when 5th on his return in Secrember. Won at Hex-

German Legend: Lightly raced since wirning a poor novice chese two years ago. Tailed off when 3rd on his frappearance test month and an early casualty next time Kerminesting: Has looked in need of both outings this seeson. Won over 21/2m at Mar-ket Rasen in April from Plustic Air, who is 5to better off for 11/2 lengths

VERDICT: A maximum field of 22 will ensure a strong pace around the strarp course which could suit the lightly weighted CELTIC DURKE. The ground is ideal for Mickey Hammonds sor-year-old, who was having his first race since June when third, beaten less then two lengths, to New Leaf and Marbie City at Ascot last month.

2.	.30	ELLERTON NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 3YO 2m Penalty Value £2,430
,	2123	PREE (19) (D) (BP) (P D Savil) Mrs M Peucley 11 5
2	P	ASPRELA (18) (Mrs C L Self) B Electr 10 12Mr K R O'Rean (7)
3		HAPPY DAYS (F66) (J W Barrert) D Wolfast 10 12
,		FM TEF (F19) (T EF Freight Ltd) T Easterby 10 12 L Wyer
5	Ų4	JAGO (11) (E.J. Martoan) M.W. Easterby 10.12
5	5	NO SHOES NO KENS (11) (C.C. Bussien) M.A. Bussiev 13 12 Mr. A. Dermann (5)
7		PRISHARP (F78) (D Bostock) R Ford 10 12
		ROVERETTO (F165) (Coden Trust Col Mrs M Review 1) 12 M H Nauchton 65)
1	đ	SLIP VENTURE (15) (Ryknek) Thoroughtred Co) M Hammond 10 12
0	45	WYNEURY FLYER (102) (Mrs G P Seymour) F Murphy 10 12
1		ALL OUR ELESSINGS (F42) (Middlehem Park Racing) Mrs A Symbank 10.7 I Sunnie
2	34	PRIOLETTE (22) (J Disk) J FlacGerald 107
		= 12 déclared -

BETTING: 6-4 Free, 11-2 Priolette, 7-1 Wystury Flyer, 8-1 I'm Tel, Stip Venture, 10-1 Happy Days, 12-1 No Shoes No News, 20-1 others 1997: Maraud 3 10 7 M Naughton (5) 20-1 (L Lloyd-James) 11 ran

FORM GUIDE Free: Below form when 13 lengths 3rd of 8 to Hurst Hill at Newcastie (2m nov hole) but Here below form when 13 sengins are on any numerous an entermone year many numerous the one to best on previous 4 lengths 2nd to Newtro Semson in a strong field at Wetherby (2m now hole, good to self, Worth another chance Aspitilia: 50-1 and tailed off when pulled up 2 out on debut in race won by Premium Quest at Market Resen (2m 11 now hole, soit). No obvious chance the control of the chance the chance of the chance o tappy Days: Inconsistent maiden 8-10f handcapper on Flat for Jack Serry Returned

I'm lest userul as-weapher miser (plest on Horsesano), malering his hundes debut. Hom a strong yard and worth noting in the market. Jagot: Poor middle-distance malden on Pat Signs of ability when 24 lengths, 4th of 11 to Accystan at Catteriok (2m nov daim hidle). Open to improvement but more to do No Shoves No News: Of no account on Pat, but promising hundes debut when 14 lengths 5th of 10 to Dangerus Precedent at Huntingdon (2m nov hidle, good). From a jumping family and probably expoble of better

Il Connections since last run at Hamilton in September, Hurden ne

Plusharp: Plating-class maden for Paul Howing of the Rat, Jumps debut Roveretto: Well beaten on only Rat outing, Looks stable second sining behind Free on rances deuth im 21 performer for Sean Woods on Rat (cast on soft). Never in the hunt when 35 languits 9th of 10 to Panama House at Wetherby (2m nov hole) but probably capable of better

probably capable of better
Wymbury Piyer: Caught the eye of stawards and banned under non-triers rule when
never-nearer 14 langths 5th of 13 to Flight For Freedom at Perth (2m nov India) in August, Likely to do a great deal better in due course. Stable in form
All Our Bleasings: Little sign of ability on the Pat it or Pat Hasten, Jumps debut
Profester, Useful tim-Utip leater on Pat. Confirmed Sedgefield promise when 5 lengths
4th of 12 to Another Bevaled at Huntingdon (2m nov India), weakering from 2 out. Needs
to bright up her jumping but looks a place cardidate

VERDICT: With Many Revelops team in unstappable form, this should be a fairly straight-forward task for PRICE, if he can reproduce his Westingby numing. Pick of the remain-der a Riely to be Wyndoury Piyer, who was not given at a la hand time at Perth and should improve considerably with his stable beginning to fire.

3.00 NORTH YORKSHIRE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS F) £3,500 added 2m Penalty Value £2,861

+ 252 LAST TRY (22) (CD) (H J Harsberg) 5 Fotwel 7 Tr 3. AS Smith

+ 252 LAST TRY (22) (CD) (H J Harsberg) 5 Fotwel 7 Tr 3. AS Smith

F-203 TAPATCH (11) (CD) (Bay Horse (Webserby) M W Esserby 10 Tr 2. F Leathy 8

2-45 MARRIER MAN (13) (D) (D J Laver) M Pa 8 Tr 7. AD Ophblin

18735 PRINCE SKYBURD (27) (D) (Ms P M A Assor) Ms P Assor 7 Tr 10 . L Wyer

182-00 OSCALL AN DORAS (14) (D) (Ms J Horse) Tr 7. AS Smith

187-00 OSCALL AN DORAS (14) (D) (Ms J Horse) Tr 7. AS Smith

187-00 OSCAL AN DORAS (14) (D) (Marquesa de Morazia) J FotGerál 5 Tr 5. E Calleghan

184-62 HAM MYEGGS (11) (D) (Marquesa de Morazia) J FotGerál 5 Tr 5. E Calleghan

184-62 DAMZA (11) (D) (Marquesa de Morazia) J FotGerál 5 Tr 5. E Calleghan

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186-64 DAMZA (11) (D) (Marquesa de Morazia) J FotGerál 5 Tr 5 DAMZA (11) (D) (Marquesa de Morazia) J FotGerál 5 Tr 5 DAMZA (11) (D) (Marquesa de Morazia) J FotGerál 5 Tr 5 DAMZA (11) (D) (Marquesa de Morazia) J FotGerál 5 Tr 5 DAMZA (11) (D) (Marquesa de Morazia) J FotGerál 5 Tr 5 DAMZA (11) (D) (Marquesa de Morazia) J FotGerál 5 Tr 5 DAMZA (11) (D) (Marquesa de Morazia) J FotGerál 5 Tr 5 DAMZA (11) (D) (Marquesa de Morazia) J FotGerál 5 Tr 5 DAMZA (11) (D) (Marquesa de Morazia) J FotGerál 5 Tr 5 DAMZA (11) (D) (D) (Marquesa de Morazia) J FotGerál 5 Tr 5 DAMZA (11

- 1a concerned -Minimum weight: 10st. Tous heroticep weight: Millenum Man 9st 5th. BETTING: 7-2 Ham N'Eggs., 11-2 Lest Try. 6-1 Tepestch, La Riviera, 7-1 Oscali An Doras, 8-1 Over-sman, Denza, 10-1 others

1997. Silver Winx 5 10 9 P Niven 3-1 (Mrs M Reveley) 6 ran

most recent outrigs. Tough test in trying to give weight away all round here Tapatich: Saried by the fast ground and found the tip too far (2m 3) when 3of to Adamas-ic and Ham N'Eggs here lest month. Has a 5tb pull for 6 lengths with the 2nd Marble Man: Front-runner, who seems to be gradually returning to form. Won 3 times lest season, but needs to drop a few more pounds in the handicap. Prince Skyburd: Missed last season and looked in need of the outing on his reappearance at Haydock last month when taked off last of 5 to The Earls
Oscall An Donas: Appeared fit enough before having his first outing for 2 years at
Hersdord last month when he was disqualfied after finishing 3rd. Has been dropped 20th in the handicap and sound chance on his old form La Riviera: Left his hurdles form behind when winning a 2m novice chase last sea-

need farther now Overemen: Handicap hurder last season when he was placed 3 times from 4 out-ings. Made mistalies on his chasing debut here last month and lough task against these experienced jumpers Heam NTeggist Returned to form here last month when 2nd to Adamatic and would have been closer if he had not hit the last. Chance at the weights as he has been dropped

za: Won a weak novice chase at Perth in September. Poor form since then and way out of his depth in a novices' handicap at Aintree last time. Claivening: Fell in 2 of his 3 outings in novice chases last season, but made the run-ning until after 2 out when last of 10 at Sedgefield on his reappearance. Chance it his

Jumping Isseps improving
Rupplist: Veteran handicapper, but seems to reserve his best for his local Market Resencourse. Prist run since October when tailed off last of 3 there last week imake Madden selling hundler and showed a little ability on his chasing debut when last of 5 finishers behind Silema Creek at Sedgefield in October. This locks too com-

Milliannium Man: No form in novice hundles and pulled up in both starts over fences VERDICT: Ham N'Eggs is well handicapped against some out of form opposition though his only success last season came in an uncompetative notice chase. OSCAIL AN DORAS made a promising contribution to livit outing for him years when third at Hareford last month, only to be disqualified as his notic was judged guilty of intentional interference. Suc-

cassful three times over fences as a seven-vear-old, he looks on a fair mark. STREETLAM 'NATIONAL HUNT' NOVICE HURDLE

3	. 3 U	(CLASS E) £3,000 added 2m 3f Penalty Value £2,640
ŧ	52041	MELDRUM PARK (11) (CD) (Mrs M Byrne) F Murphy 5 to 12 Mr J P Michenger
2	OPF5-P	BOUNDTOHONOUR (54) (P Gornley) J H Johnson 6 to to A S Si
3	0000-0	BRAVE MAN (B) (S J Curte) J Curte 4 10 10
4	00-F	CAP IN HAND (19) (Cartmel Syndicate) Mrs 5 Smith 6 to 10
5		COOLAMEL (18) (Lady Anne Bereinck) O Brennan 6 10 10 S Melrose
В	P35-0P	DONT SAY THAT (17) (The Four Farmers) J Dodds 6 10 10
7	UFP-P	ELLIOTT THE BUTLER (14) (Mrs C E Van Pracyh) Mrs S Smith 6 10 10 R Wilkinson
В	FP08-2	GLOBAL LEGENO (69) (1 Emmerson) Emmerson 8 to 10
g	2-51	GRAMALDI LAD (69) (A Saccomendo) M Hammond 4 10 10 B Ham
10	8/	JRIGHY SPRITE (705) U.C. Gartutt) R Barr 7 to 10
11	141-54	JOHN BUSH (20) (F J Bush) P Eccles 4 10 10
12	650-0	LORD OF THE LAND (17) (Mrs O Sayer) Mrs O Sayer 5 to 10
Ħ		PERSUASIVE TALENT (336) (D A Lambert) D Lamb 7 10 10
14	20 P23	ROCHEBURG (20) (G B Farbarn) F Murtagh 5 10 10
15		CUMBRIAN KATE (F Grass) B Mactaggar! 6 10 5
16	006-0	LAURENLUKE (23) (Mrs D A Boustett) B Boustett 6 105 S Tar
17	9242 P	MEMISAND OFESTEEN (16) (T French & R Jones) S Golings 7 105
18	006-F	THE BIG ROCKETTE (23) (Mrs P Flynn) M Meacher 5 to 5 C McConmack
19	01-3	TWENTY WINKS (22) (Mrs P E W Nicholson) J J Quan 5 to 5, L W
		- 19 declared -

BETTRING: 4-1 Twenty Winks, 9-2 Meldrum Park, 5-1 Global Legend, Memai Rotheburg, 7-1 Grimaldi Lad, 10-1 John Bush, 20-1 others 1997 Stonesby 5 to 10 J Callegren 14-1 (G M Moore) 19 ran

FORM GUIDE

from Paris: Had to be pushed right out in the closing staces to win a maiden horde Meletrum Peric Hot to be pushed right out in the dosing stages to win a maiden hurde over this this have less month. Looks oppossable with a 7th pensity. Boundlichonour: Fair 4th to Brikdale have less season, but showed stite in 3 other custings. Has not run since being pulled up in a handicap hurdle at Cartiste in October Brave Man: Showed nothing in 3 outings for Mick Easterby last season. No improvement when 50-1 and 7th of 8 firehers on first run for new yard at Market Pasen lest week. Cap In Hand: Unplaced in a bumper and a novice hurdle last season. Glimmer of ability when prominent until 4 out. though was behind when falling at the next on her reappear-ance lest month. ance lest month Coolandif: Had 2 unplaced runs in bumpers before making his hurding debut last month

when pulled up before the final flight after a mistake 3 out. Locks experience
Dont Say That: Placed once from 4 outlings in Insh point-to-points sat season. Soon lost
bouch when pulled up at Apr (2m 8) last morah and needs more of a test of stamme
Ellioti The Buller: Pulled up in a nowce hunde on his reappearance last morth. Falled to firsh in 2 south-east point-to-points last season and is bried for chee Clinial Legand: Has had plenty of chances and was again found wanting at the linish when 2nd in a week malden hundle at Perth in September. First run for new yard Grimaldi Lad: Confirmed the gromise he showed on his debut when wrining a bumper at Pertil (good) in September. First run since, but stable is in line form.

Journy Spritte: Missed lest soaton and finished lest of 6 on his only outing in a bumper (stanted at 66-f) at Musseburgh in 1996. Out of which purpose the Mittens John Busht: Won 2 bumpers (sat season and made a promiting first appearance over hundles when 5th at Chellenham in October. May have found the trip (3m) beyond him at Tauriton

Lord Of The Land: Unplaced in 3 bumpars last season, he made mistakes and was always behind on his hurding debut at Ayr last month
Permussive Balant Maiden funder and has been fred in biliners. Beasen a distance when
and of 8 in a modest novice event at Sedgefield last season. No prospects
Rochebungs Osappowed on his first outing over fundes this season, but has alnot been
placed twice. Looked to med tarther then 2m when 3rd to Mazzleo last time
Combining Mark Mark Heroed. Looked him.

Cumbrien Kate: Unraced Jumbo Hirt mare out of a moderate burdle Laurentuke: Little agn of ability in 3 bumpers tast seeson and besten a long way on ins Ce in another bumper last month.
Ofesteem: Placed 2nd 3 times from 7 outings in novice hundles last cesson. Usually takes a strong hold, but stays this trip. May have been unsuffed by the soft ground innen pulled up at Laicester bast morah

when pured by a secessia gas moral. The Big Rockwiter Has had 4 owings in bumpers and revealed a modicum of promise when Gir to subsequent hundles without Artadon Lad at Untowster in May. Twenty Winks: Bumper without here buil season. Stayed on well to take third place on her hurding debut at Sedgefield lest month and Classical Dance (2nd) won at Kelso on Monde VERDICT: Even though there are 19 numers this may mainly concern TWENTY WINKS. Meldirum Park, Rechaburg and John Bush. By Gurner B. Twenty Winks has planty of scanna in her pedigree. She ran a sound race on her first appearance over hundles at Sedge-field (2011) last month and this longer trip should suit her better. J P active in France

Le Coudray, France's leading four-year-old hurdler, for an undisclosed sum. It is thought that he will now be trained in Ireland.

Chapman's Chaplins Club and Glencroft.

Robert Hallam

J P McMANUS has purchased

Le Coudray, who had been trained in Chantilly by Marcel Rolland, has won four out of his last five races. Rolland said "This horse has lots of quality, can jump quickly and has plenty of stamina. All I hope is that if he does not adapt to the obstacles in England and Ireland. then he will be sent back to me." The David Chapman-trained Soaked makes his first attempt at the outright 20th Century Flat handicap record of 10 wins at Wolverhampton today. Other joint-holders include Sihafi and

FIRST SHOW

Dank Oak 22-1 25-1 25-1 25-1 25-1 January O'Dea 33-1 33-1 33-1 33-1

RACING RESULTS

NEWCASTLE

Going: Soft (Good to Soft in places) Also: 9-1 Classic Blues (4th), 20-1 North Asso; 9-1 Cesse: blues (4th), 20-1 North-em Accord (3d not finish), 25-1 Burning Truth, High Pyreness (6th), 33-1 Carlisle Bay (3d not finish), General Academy, The Roundsias, 50-1 De Orale (5th), Nampara Bay (3id not finish), 66-1 Desert Car, Shes All Heart, 100-1 Eat Your Pear (did not fin-ish), Holdemess Girl, Otterburn Lad, 200-1 Donna's Dancer, 500-1 Allerback

19 ran. 2, 25, 5, 6, 4 (Mrs M Reveley, Saltburn). Tota: wm £1.70; places £1.70, £1.40, £1.60. Dual Forecast: £3.40. Computer

12.55: (2m 4f novice hurdle) 1. KINGENNIE _____P Niven 33-1 2. Ahraydoubleyou ___R Wildnson 11-2B Harding 14-1 Also: 8-11 fav Noshinannikin, 11-2 Sple Also: 3-11 fav Noshinarnikh, 11-2 Splendid Melody (Sth), 12-1 Aslotog Ventura, Oh So Cosy, 14-1 Rodders (4th), 20-1 Tell Morry, 50-1 Shannon Shoon, Stonehill (did not fin-ish), 100-1 Edstone (6th), Up The Creek 13 ran. 6, 15, 4, 2%, 1%, (Mrs M Reveley, Saldburn) Tota: wn 125-20; places (430, 1160, 1130, DF: 18170, CSF-1200.99.

I.25: (3m novice chase) I. TON('S TIP..... Also: 7-4 fav House Captain (did not finish), 5-1 Into The Black (did not finish), 12-1 Castletown Count (5th), 25-1 Insh Spirit (do not finish), 66-1 Seaburn (did not finish), 100-1 The Other Man (4th), 150-1 Greentinch (did not finish). 200-1 Notoobig (did not linish). 11 ran. nk, 25, 30, 29 (F Murphy, Middle-ham). Tota: wn 53:10; places £190, £200, £220 DF: £3220 CSF: £3809 Tota Tritecta:

(601), 25-1 formo swee, 8 ran, 4.4, 611-fed, 17.3 (Miss L. Siddell, Tad-caster), Tolar win 2380; places £2.20, £1.40. DF: £6.90, CSF. £70.21, Tncast; £31 28

2.25; (3m handicap hurdle)
1. ALPINE PANTHER 2. Palace of GoldW Dowling 4-1 Also: 9-4 fav Cottstown Boy (4th), 4-1 VIpreno (5th), 14-1 Sister Rase (clid not fin-ish), 20-1 Livio (did not fimsh), 50-1 Commanche Creek (6th).
8 ren. 2. 3. 5. 4 dist (Mrs M Reveley, Salt-burn). Tota: win £9.20; places £3.00, £1.50, £2.00, DF: £2.080 CSF: £3.002. Tricast:

C12798. Non Runner: Johns The Boy.

2.55: (2m nOyds handicap chase)
1. MOSS PAGEANT ______ D Parker 20-1
2. Minster Glory ______ P Carberry 5-2
3. Golden Helio ______ Wyer 5-1L Wyer 5-1 Also: 15-8 lav Political Tower (4th). 10-1 Monyman (5th), 14-1 Know-No-No (did not finish), Wee River (8th). 7 ran. 7, 9, 14, 21, 15, 16 Walfon, Morpeth). Yota: win SARAD: places 25-30, 21-50 DF: £22.40 CSF: 557.77. Titcast; £231.58. NR: Rattery Frad

3.25: (2m National Hunt flat rec 3.25; (27) National Hunt fast race)
1. TIME OF PLIGHT P Niven 20-1
2. Supreme Forture Jikr A Dempkey 20-1
3. Native Affek R Supple 9-4 fav
Also; 11-4 Tonoco (4th), 10-1 Kalante, Also: 11-4 Tornoco (4th), 10-1 Kalante, Nicodemus (5th), Stop The Gossp. 12-1 Rathure, 14-1 Brea Hai (6th), Red Ark, 16-1 Johnny Joe, 20-1 Virtuous Circle, 25-1 Bustad Flat, Fear Stat, 33-1 Come And Run, Three Lakes, 50-1 General Louis, 100-1 Buteland Boy, Cherry Image, Javarnen (cicl not hrish), Martha's Moonstone. not meanly hour man wounstone. 21 man. 16.31/c 11/c (3 (Mrs M Reveley, Saltburn). Total: win £77(0): places £340, £340, £140, DF: £2580 CSF, £359.26 NR:

Jackpot: Not won, pool of £3,714.22 carried forward to Cattenck today
Placepot: £11250. Quadpot: £30.50
Place 6: £104.51 Place 5: £93.40

CATTERICK 2.00

C H L S T Hopetal Lord 11-2 5-1 5-1 6-1 6-1 Callie Dates 8-1 7-1 71-2 7-1 8-1

Radical Choics 10-1 8-1 9-1 11-1 8-1 Suprema Soviet 91 101 91 11-1 101 Arctic Fox 10-1 10-1 9-1 10-1 8-1 Gastic Elles 11-1 12-1 11-1 11-1 12-1 Spong Hicks 11-1 12-1 12-1 11-1 14-1 Stage Fright 11-1 12-1 12-1 12-1 16-1 Kerangstino 15-1 16-1 20-1 14-1 15-15 201_141 251 181 181

Rustic Air 16-1 20-1 20-1 16-1 18-1 Another Venture 14-1 20-1 20-1 20-1 16-1 Gate Force 20-1 20-1 20-1 15-1 15-1 Starp Command 14-1 20-1 20-1 20-1 20-1 Kings Sermon 25-1 20-1 16-1 20-1 20-1 fm The Man 22-1 25-1 25-1 25-1 25-1 Pathtole Breach 28:1 20:1 23:1 25:1 25:1 D'Arblay Street 22-1 25-1 33-1 25-1 33-1

German Lagend 40-1 33-1 33-1 33-1 40-1 Pints Gin 40-1 33-1 40-1 33-1 40-1 Each way, a quarter the odds, places 1, 2, 3, 4 C Cord H Win Hill Ladbales \$ Santy Tibe

14:11

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NEWTON ABBOT Going: Soft (Heavy In places) 1.05: 1. BEAU (C Llewellyn) 7-2: 2. Estate Agent 1-3 fav; 3. Conveil Cossack 14-1.8 ran. 11/4. 18. (N Twiston-Davies, Chetrenham).

Tota: 25:10; £2:70, £100, £710, DF: £130, CSF 1.35: 1. ROYAL TOAST (M A Fizzgerald) 9-4; 2. Kingsfold Pet 2-1 fav; 3. Sof Music 7-2 8 ran. 9, 9 (N Henderson, Lainbourn) Totar (240; 510; 124, 6120; DF: 2380. CS) 5884. NF: Advance East.

2.05: 1. ELEGANT DES COSSES (Mes P Curing) 11-8 fav; 2. The Boozing Bilef 33-1; 3. Fridolin 6-1. 8 ran. Hd, 21/n. (P. Hobbs, Minehead). Tola: £200; £00. £280, £170. DF; £20.80. CSF; £34.20. Tricast: £172.10. 2.35: 1. BARONCELLI (W Marston) 9-2: 2. True Fortune 7-2; 3. Glpi Beach 11-4 fav. 8 ran. 2, 7. (M Wildnson, Banbury), Tote: 55-40; 5280, 5240, DF: \$1250, CSF: \$1729. 3.05: 1. ZAGGY LANE (S Burrough) 2-1 tay, 2. Assessins 11-2; 3. Spy Dessa 16-1 8 ran, 5. dist. (P Rodford, Martock), Tota: £280; £150, £220, £750, DF: £150, CSF: £13; 5. Til-

Cast: £127.48 3.35: 1, WONTCOSTALOTBUT (W Marston) 6-4 fay 2. Blue Blazzer 5-1; 3. Fancy Nancy 5-1 5 ran. 21/r, 31/r. (M WBorson, Banbury). Tota: £280; £180, £180, DF: £550, CSF; £864. Placepol: £1940. Quadpot: £1910. Place 6: £12.26. Place 5: £11.95.

SOUTHWELL

Going: Standard 271/8. NR: Cabcharge Blue 12.10: 1, ELTON LEDGER (R Frice) 8-1; 2.

General Klaire 12-1; 3. Theayer 40-1, 13 ran. 2-1 fav Moet (8th), shri-hd, shri-hd, (Mrs. N. Macauley), Tote: £980; £270, £480, £520 DF: £102.50, £38; £94.38; Tricast: £3,461.58. Dr: EREDU. CSP: 25%05: Handle Commune 12.40: 1, FAR CRY (Mr C Vigors) 4-7 fav; 2, Wild Camary 16-1: 3, II Principe 4-1, 11 ran, 1, 3/s. (Sir Maris Prescott). Tote: £170; £100 \$3.20, £131. DF: £1260; CSP: £1302. After a stemantic impure relaciones unabtract. 1.15: 1. ADELPHI BOY (A Cultane) 7-4; 2. Flying Officer 8-11 lav; 3. Station Gel 33-1 12 ran. ½, 4. (M Chapman). Tota: \$3.30; £110, £110, £470, DF: £180, CSF: £3.08.

1.45: 1. WINOSHIFT (R Winston) 25-1; 2. Love Diamonds 2-1 fav; 3. Heathyards Jake 15-1; 4. Alama's Cavaller 20-1 16 ran.
11/1, 21/2, (D. Shaw) Tota: 64140; 6430 at 6130 £260 £260 £560 DF: 66070 £5757. 2.15: 1. THEATRE MAGIC (I Faming) 9-2; 2. Ocker 7-2 fav; 3. Indian Blaze 9-1 13 ran. hd. 2 (D Shav). Tote: \$40; 5:00 (200, \$460 DF: £870 CSF; £810 Tricasi; £8171.

2.45: 1. SALTY BEHAVIOUR (A Cultare) 4-1 | 18v; 2. Most Respectful 4-1 | 18v; 3. Zativan 20-1 16 ram. 1, 3% |P D Brans) Total 2490; £190; £190; £170; DF: £940; CSF; 3.15: 1. DANCING-ALONE (R Studrolme) 34-1; 2. Yes Keemo Sabee 25-1; 3. Siesve SBR 12-1: 4. Spa Lane 11-1, 18 ran. 9-4 tay Marita 11. 4. (D Morrist Tote: 225-70; 22-90 2360 2430; 2300. DF: 15-90. CSF; 2317-36 Tricest : £2,935.60 After a elements inquiry.

placings unaftered Placepot: 25380 Quadpot: 2540. Place 6: 25812 Place 6: 23653

*THE INDEPENDENT **RACING SERVICES** 0891 261 LIVE COMMENTARIES RESULTS CATTERICK

971 981 PLUMPTON 972 982 WOLVERHAMPT'N 973 983 ALL COURSES RESULTS <u>0891 261 970</u> Calls coal Stig per extense, CLS, Uni, Screener St &CLS 499

المكذا من الإصل

Blazing atrail across Arabia

An elite group of horses and riders will next week race across 100 miles of desert. By Genevieve Murphy

World Endurance Riding Championships sounds more chaotic and only marginally less dangerous than The Charge of the Light Brigade.

Some 200 riders and horses (more than twice as many as ever before) will be milling around in the dark on 10 December as they prepare for the 4am flare-lit start of this 100mile race, which will be run in a single day through the deserts of Abu Dhabi and

in etempton

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-- Come wing

17 Th E 110,000

Vehicles will be setting out too. These will include a convoy escorting the best known of the participants: Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai, who is making his first attempt at the world title.

Jo Trego, one of the six British competitors who left for The Emirates on 19 November for three weeks of acmatisation, believes that the hassed start could be a nightmare with so many competitors -a lot of them first-timers. She would not, however, miss it for the world.

"That's when my adrenalin is up and kicking," Trego said, before she left her home near Sheoton Mallet for the Middle East, carrying with her the best wishes of those at the res-

THE MASSED start for the idential home where she works as a night-time carer. All preonships have been held either in Europe or the United States. This one was scheduled to be part of October's World Equestrian Games in Italy until the International Equestrian Federation (FEI) received an offer they could not refuse from the

> As the Arabs pointed out, their indigenous small, tough and wiry Arabian horses have dominated the sport since the inaugural World Championships of 1986. A trial run, held in February and won by Sheikh Mohammed from his son Sheikh Hamdan, was deemed a huge success by the bigwigs of the

> The phenomenal number of entries for next Thursday's championships will inevitably provide logistical problems for the UAE Equestrian and Racing Federation, who are hosting the event, and for the former British Olympic rider, Michael Bullen (of Peden Bloodstock Ltd) who has been responsible for transporting around 200 horses from all corners of the

> Trego is the only Briton with previous experience of competing in an Arabian desert,



حكذا من الاجل

Oliver's Taboo and his rider, Jo Trego, are among 200 partnerships competing in the World Endurance Championships

Oliver's Taboo, on a 26-mile marathon in Qatar in 1995. The start of that ride remains a vivid memory: "There were helicopters overhead and lots of vehicles, with everyone yelling, whooping and beating horns. It felt like being a film star."

The British team (seeking to add to World Championship victories of 1986 and 1990 and successive European team titles of 1993 and 1995) will not be rushing for an early lead on 10 December. "We'll try to stay together as a team and keep out of trouble," Trego said. "You having ridden her Arab gelding, gain nothing by racing over

the first 25 miles; the faster you go, the longer it takes for the horse's pulse to come down."

The pulse rate is of vital importance at the five vet gates, which riders will enter by using electronic swipe-cards, and again at the finish. Stringent veterinary controls mean elimination for any horse whose pulse rate is not below a specified limit. within 30 minutes of arrival.

Thanks to a massive investment by the Arabs, the vet gates will be at a lavish control centre in the desert, where shade and showers will be provided for the horses. This is

where the back-up crews rush into action. Trego will have her daughter, Carly, and a friend, Aly Edwards, to give Oliver's Taboo a cooling shower and

and rider. Those campaigning for endurance riding to be introduced as an Olympic sport can point to the knowledg e gained by the riders (most of them on inexpensive horses) and to the 40odd nations taking part in the forthcoming championships, which is more than any recorded by other equestrian disci-

plines. "It is very much an

provide refreshment for horse

amateur sport, we all do it for the love of it," Trego said. "Although we don't have any fancy facilities, we still manage to produce top athletes."

Trego first met Oliver's Taboo 12 years ago when he was only 18 months old. Had it not been her 26th birthday, she might have resisted paying the £275 asking price which she could not really afford. Fortunately, she indulged herself and now has a wonderful rapport with her "incredibly gutsy little horse."

Sheikh Mohammed must have paid considerably more for his mounts (he has won three

major endurance rides this year on three different horses) but you could hardly accuse him of having it easy.

He, too, will be facing a 100mile ride at an average speed of 10 to 11 miles an hour (which means trotting and/or cantering for the entire journey). Like Trego, he may also find himself sitting down gingerly the following day.

BRITISH SQUAD FOR WORLD ENDURANCE CHAMPIONSHIPS (Abo Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, 10 December): G Campbell (Barwani), G Hartley (Moon God), J James (Rowengay Garnet). A Neurton (Dacott), J Trego (Oliver's Taboo) and J Williams (Drumghigha Shiera).

King sets the title wheels in motion

BOXING

HENRY AKINWANDE will fight the winner of the world heavyweight championship unification bout between Lennox Lewis and Evander Holyfield, according to the promoter Don King.

Britain's former World Boxing Organisation heavyweight champion, who has a record of 33 wins, one defeat and one draw, suffered his only defeat last year to Lewis when he was disqualified for failing to fight.

He was to have faced Holyfield last June, but the fight was cancelled when Akinwande tested positive for hepatitis. The good news for the Dul-

wich-born, Akinwande, who is now based in the United States, came in New York on Monday night as Lewis and Holyfield set the stage for their long-awaited heavyweight unification on 13 March.

"When you wait for a long time and you cry, you finally get what you want," Holyfield said. On 13 March, Lewis cashes in. But I will be ready. I will be the undisputed champion. I will be wearing the belt."

King compared the fight to the famed 1971 Muhammad Ali-Joe Frazier bout at the Garden, playing the role of circus ringmaster with his customary panache.

"The British are coming. Get ready and be fortified," King said. "I want all the Brits to come along with the Union Jack and sing along. We're allies. It's probably the greatest event you have seen in a long time."

The four-times world champion, Terry Norris, announced his retirement 12 hours after failing to win the Word Boxing Association light-middleweight title in Paris. The American was stopped in the ninth round by Frenchman Laurent Boudouani - his third straight defeat.

Norris contested 25 world title fights and retires with 47 wins and nine defeats. His career featured wins over Sugar Ray Leonard, Don Curry, John Mugabi and Meldrick Taylor.

PLUMPTON

40 Pax De Clermont 1.10 Gorman 1.40 Cavalero 2.10 Supreme Day 2.40 Cardinal Rule 3.10 Dancing Poser 3.40 Hal Hoo Yaroom

> GOING: Good to Soft. ■ Left-hand, unclulating course with sharp bends. Tricky down-hill lence in back straight. Uphill run-in of 200yds.
> ■ Course is off A275 S of Haywards Heath. Plumpton station adjoins course. ADMISSION: Members £15; Tattersalls £9; Canthe of course 64 per car plus 25 per person. CAR PARK: \$1.
>
> ILLEADING TRAINERS: M Pipe 26-54 (481%), J Jenkins 13-ELEADING THAINERS: M Pipe 25-54 (481%), J Jenkins 13-72 (181%), R Rowe 12-86 (14%), J Neville 11-26 (423%), E LEADING JOCKEYS: A P McCoy 36-104 (345%), M A Sepperate 15-67 (224%) D O'Sullivan 15-82 (183%), A Maguire 1843 (222%).

FAVOURITES: 182-442 (41.2%) LONG DISTANCE TRAVELLER: Struggling On (210) & Onetorninie (3:10) sem 279 miles. BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Prix De Clermont (12:40), Sir Gale-

12.40 BRIGHTON NOVICE CLAIMING HURDLE (CLASS F) £3,000 added 2m 1f

- 17 declared -

ASETTRIC: 11-4 Multi Franchise. 4-1 Inclination, 5-1 Rowlandsons Chan 2-1 Esseure Dome, Ma Bernade, 10-1 Prix de Clemont, 12-1 others

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CAR PARK: FI

OMR 35-303 (1199-)

FORM VERDICT

places of form. The market should be consulted and ex-irsh TREASURE DOME is only a fentative choice to beat Row-

FORM VERDICT

FORM VERDICT

A moor race in which a number merc consideration on bits and

- 4 declared -BETTING: 7-4 Native Charm, 11-4 Head For Heaven, 3-1 Gorman, 4-1

NATIVE CHARM, the pick of the quartet on hurdles form and, in receipt of the meres' allowence, is well worth the chance to make amends for her recent fall.

'GALLEANO' AMATEURS HANDICAP 1.40 GALLEANO AMALEONO , 11110yds CHASE (CLASS E) \$4,000 3m 11110yds 71-22F CAVALERO (11) (D) H Marmers 9 12 C., Mr A Charles-Jones (7) 11-2U1 WOODLANDS BEAU (17) (D) R Alter 6 Tt 4... Mr J D Moore (7) 22/R-U WHEPPERS DELIGHT (16) (C) G Cherics-Jones 12 12 0......

BETTING: 4-5 Cavalero, 15-8 Woodlands Beau, 5-1 Whippers Delight,

Delight. The former, who has been running well this term, had just taken over from Woodlands Beau when he tell at the last fence at Barbury Cestle last January. Both have improved significentity in the meantime, with Cavalero - the better jumps now - preferred, despite a 10to disadvantage.

1.10 HENFIELD NOVICE CHASE (CLASS E) £4,000 added 2m 2f

Minimum weight: 10st True handitzap weights: Whippeas Delight 9st 125, Joke

Alex Charles-Jones, presumably with a choice of mounts, has unsurprisingly plumped for CAVALERO rather than Whipper's

2.10 DITCHLING NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS

E) £3,000 added 2m 4f 2:22 PHAR LESS HASSLE (23) (CD) 1 McGovern 6 ti 5. T J Murphy 2: POLAR FLIGHT (16) (CD) Liss V Williams 4 ti 5. N Williamson 4:0-47 COLOUR COUNSELLOR (6) Miss A M Newton-Shan 5 til 12

R Formati

ARES JUSTICE (639) (87) http://dx.com/dx 25-JF FOX RIDGE (NZ) (14) Mss S Stiwards 6 to 12 _

FORM VERDICT

It should not be necessary to look beyond the market leaders. POLAR FLIGHT is better than indicated by the bare facts of his recent course win, and can follow up at the expense of promis-ing Supreme Day.

2.40 OWL HOLDINGS HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS C) £8,000 added 2m 5f

405F- ROYAL MOUNTEROWNE (341) (D) Mess M Rowland 10 12 0. 2 213LF TIME WONT WAIT (\$2) R Prilips 9 Tr 8. C Liewellyn
2 20LF LIGHTEWING LAD (\$2) R Prilips 9 Tr 8. C Liewellyn
3 20LF LIGHTEWING LAD (\$2) J King 10 Tr 4 M A Fitzgerild
4 33-55 COLITEM HERO (\$1) (\$7 A Are 8 to 13 . . . A Thorston
5 21:3- CARDENAL RILE (\$2) (\$2) Mss V Wilems 9 10 1 . N Williams on
6 PF-FT1 SCANO (FR) (16) (\$20) D O'Bhen 7 To 0 J Cullody
6 Prilips Color of the Prilips of the Color of the Co

FORM VERDICT

CARDINAL RULE looks a far bet to complete a double for Vene-ta Williams and Norman Williamson, despite a 14-month ab-sence. His trainer has no superior at readying a horse first time, and course winner Cardinal Rule, was suited by the conditions, appeared to be still on the upgrade when "getting a leg" on fast ground early last season. He can outstay Time Won't Welt.

3.10 PETER PANNETT 70TH BIRTHDAY NOVICE H'CAP H'DLE (E) £3,500 3m 110yds

Luyer user and sur. BETTING: 5-2 Young Thruster, 4-1 Dancing Poser, 9-2 Onsforwille, Bowlet Patrol, 10-1 Tremplin, Ele-Yie-Mou, 16-1 Sir Galetorce, 20-1 others FORM VERDICT

This step up in distance could prove decisive for BOWLES PA-TROL, who was doing his best work at the first when just fail-ing to catch Dencing Poser (1 ib worse) at Exeter, Northing else to through

3.40 HBLB EASTBOURNE HANDICAP HUR-DLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 2m 4f

tain Bid, 8-1 Keep Me In Mind, Derisbay FORM VERDICT

Hall Hoo Yaroom, seeking his third course victory this term, is not the most consesent of characters and it can pay to oppose him with MILLIMOUNT, who will strip fitter for a recent pipe-opener and is back on a favourable mark.

Minimum weight: 10st. True handicap weights: Ea-Vie-Mou 9st 13tb, Dancing Poses 9st 12b, Bowles Parol 9st 11b, The Sizzo 9st, Ballyhamy 8st 8b.

4444-4 TICKERTY'S GIFT (18) (D) G L Moore 8 11 10 G Brackley
4337 HAL HOO YAROOM (18) (CD) J Jenkins 5 11 6 . IN Williamson

7.30 unless stated
EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS' LEAGUE Galatasaray v Juventus (7.45).....

WORTHINGTON CUP
OUARTER-FINALS
Leicester v Blackburn (7 45)
Tottenham v Manchester Utd (7.45). NATIONWIDE FOOTBALL LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION Norwich v Grimsby (7.45) QPR v lpswich (7.45)......

PRESS & JOURNAL HIGHLAND LEAGUE: Deveronvale v Fraserburgh (8 0); Lossiemouth v Clachnacuddin: Rothes v Fort William.

Rothes v For: William.

FA CARLISBERG WASE Second round replay: Porthleven v Brislington (7.45).

RYMAN LEAGUE First Division: Braintnee v Uxbridge (7.45); Molesey v Canvey Island. Wandanel Trophy second round: Harlow v Aveley.

OR MARTENS LEAGUE Midland Division: Newport (Gwent) v Paget Rangers.
League Cup first round second leg: Biston (1) v Worcester (1): Paget Rangers (1) v Shepshed Dynamo (5).

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE Pre-

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE Promier Division: Canterbury v Crockenh Cray Wanderers v Thamesmead. SCREWFIX DIRECT LEAGUE Premier Division: Tweston y Paulton NORTH WESTERN TRAINS LEAGUE

CUP First round: Skelmersdale v Wood-ley Sports. Floodilt Trophy first round second leg: Nantwich v Leek CSOB. Floodilt Trophy second round: Darwen v Vauchall GM: St Helens v Rossendale. JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE First Division: Eastleigh v Thatcham JEWSON EASTERN LEAGUE CUP Sec-ond round (7.45): Chatters v Warton; Downham v Clacton; Ipswith Wanderers

FA CUP SECOND ROUND

ARNOTT INSURANCE NORTHERN LEAGUE First Division: Bedlington Ter-ners v South Shields. Billingham Town v Fasiances

Easington.

PONTINS LEAGUE Premier Division:
Barmingham v Everton (7 15) Preston v Sunderland (7 15). First: Division: Barmsley v Wolverhampton (7 0): Burnley v Bolton (7.15): Tranmere v Manchester City (7.15). West Bromwich v Steffield Wed (7.0) Second Division: Shrewsbury v Blackpool (7.0): Stockport v Scarborough (7.0): Wresham v Brodford (7.0): Protentian v Notts County (7.0) Third Division: Darlington v Scuritorpe (7 0) (at Durham Cry FC); Hull v Hartlepool (2 0): Rochdale v Chesterfield (2.0).

AVON: INSURANCE COMBINATION

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION
First Division: Brentford v Peterborough
(2.0): Charitton v Barnet (7.0): Colchester
v Watford; Crystal Palace v Cambridge Utd;
Gillingham v Brighton (2.0): Swindon v
Reading (7.15): Wimbledon v Bournemouth

RUGBY UNION

WORLD CUP EUROPEAN QUALIFYING ZONE POOL THREE

derers v DLSP (7 0). HART GILMORE NORTH MIDLANDS CHAMPIONISHIP: Greater Birmingham v Shropshire (7.30) jat Old Saltlerans RFC)

BASKETBALL

WEEKEND POOLS FORECAST

WOLVERHAMPTON

HYPERION 12.50 Royal Cascade 1.20 New Yorker 1.50 Mailia 2.20 Crow's Nest 2.50 Hugwity 3.20 Bapsford 3.50 Royal German

GORICE Standard STALLS: Inside. DRAW ADVANTAGE: High best up to Im. Fereigand, left-hand, oval course Course is N of town on A449 Wolvemempton station im.

ADMISSION: Cub 26: Temperate 55 (OAP members of Diamond Ob Mr. Values Restaurant 52990 including entrance and meal

LEADING TRADIERS: R Hollanshand 74-679 (success rate 109%). Journalous 61-279 (219%), J Berry 51-350 (146%), P Evans 41-क्षा क्षान्त्री : TENNING JOCKEYS: J Weaver 66-311 (SUCCESS Fall 2124) S Moders 49-350 (133%), G Duffield 35-234 (154%), Dean McKe-

BICURITES 200 900 (321%).

BICURITES 200 900 (321%).

BICURITES PROST THE: Rolling Thunder (150) Cattool Lane

BICURITES (22) Crow's Nest (visored 220). 12.50 MEB CONTRACTING CLAIMING STAKES (F) (DIV I) £3,000 added 6f

2502 1004 CASCADE (19) (CD) 6 McMaron 191 V Halfiday 7 B WHAT I WE STONE E (6) (CD) Ars N Macasey 4 2 13 ... R Price 4 V

SAGE PART THE CHEF (304) M Usher 6.9 °C W Hunchmann (7) 6.2 °C W Hunchmann (7) 6.3 °C W Hun PART LA PEUTE RUSSE (SIG) (C D) Mas 5 William 7.86.

20 January 11-4 Kryster Max. 3-1 Bug Barr. Apg Dancer, 10-1 Royal Cast the 12-1 Hour The Chief, 14-1 Miles's Double, Love Opera. 16 others FORM VERDICT Friends star has been presented with a good opportunity to Personal ways but his recent return was incombisive and and presence is for BIG BEN, a fax sort at this level and patterns.

The more than to give his running man the Bies of Alig

ter and Le Pette Fuece. Royal Cascade has sold clams.

1.20 HUNDRED YEARS MAIDEN STAKES (D) (DIV I) £4,000 added 1m 100yds

- 10 declared -BETTING: 7-2 Mumerib, 9-2 Flame Tower, Blue Dewn, 5-1 Strade D'amelinyste 7-1 Battle Glen, New Yorker, 12-1 Martos's Song, 20-1 others FORM VERDICT A weak maiden can go to the fair juvenile hundler SHADE D'AMETHYSTE, who could be hard to peg back if talang to the surface. Flame Tower and Stue Dawn look the pick of those with AW experience, but bigger threats could come from Museum in cort Settle Green

1.50 MEB CONTRACTING CLAIMING STAKES (F) (DIV II) £3,000 added 6f 4-500 TAYSEER (USA) (11) (D) W Mur 49 11 ______T Spraise 2 04000 MAC'S DREAM (USA) (12) A Carroll 3 8 3 ____M Tabbutt 11 00554 ROLLING THUNDER (77) R McGrin 6 8 13...A McGrine 12 8 85000 SAMWAR (35) (D) Mrs. N McCauley 6 8 13 ___ Dane O'NeR 5 300005 MALLIA (19) (CD) (BF) T D Barroll 5 8 9 ____ O Pears 6 B (CD404 PHOREK PRINCESS (27) (D) Mrs. G Kalleway 4 8 6 ____ S Whitworth 8 B

60-000 TEMPUS FUGIT (49) B R Mitman 3 8 6 ... Down McKee 7 80-000 TEMPUS PUGIL (48) B H MINISTOS A COURT 9 8 60000 OK JOHN (135) J Alexiner 3 8 5 A Court 9 9 000800 KOLBY (18) A Baley 3 8 3 J Bostoy (7) 13 0 654606 LITTLE IBNR (12) (CD) P Evans 7 8 3 G Carter 3 060501 MARY JANE (19) (C) (D) J Serry 3 8 2 P Possey 4 2 000-00 SURPRESA CARA (175) B Johnson 3 8 2 P Doe (5) 10 5 600505 SING FOR ME (9) (C) R Holinstead 3 7 12 P M Cutins (7) 1 13 declared -

BETTING: 7-2 Mary Jane, 9-2 Magila, 5-1 Tayseer, 6-1 Phoenix Princesa, 6-1 Samerar, 9-1 Rolling Thunder, 12-1 Sing For Me, 14-1 others FORM VERDICT This looks a decent opportunity for MALLIA to get back on the winning trail. He has a good record on Fibresand and, with birthers back on and a 16th pull is confidently expected to turn the tables on his Southwell conqueror Taylacer Many Jame looks

2.20 BRITISH GAS 'FIRST IN THE FIELD' HANDICAP (D) £5,000 added 2m 46yds

and the second s

FORM VERDICT A good opportunity for DANCING CAVALIER to add to his win here last month. He had four of today's rivals behind that day, including subsequent Southers! score Paradise Navy, and a reproduction of that effort will make him hard to beat.

2.50 THORPE VERNON HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5,000 added 1m 100yds

46 June 12 Jun FORM VERDICT

A possible blot on the weights in YEOMAN CLIVER, who has been in excellent form on furf of late but was previously regarded as a Pibresand specialist. The pick of his AW form puts him on a decent mark, lower than for either of his handicap wins, and most of his mals seem either weighted up to the hilt or have 3.20 COD SELLING STAKES (CLASS G) £2,500 added im 100yds

- 13 declared -BETTING: 5-2 Salty Behaviour, 7-2 Roffny Spinney, 5-1 Bepationd, 10-1 Star Manager, My Legal Eagle, Arberig, 14-1 Burning, 16-1 others

FORM VERDICT to reverse last months placings over 7f here with yesterday's Southwell winner Safty Behavlour.

3.50 HUNDRED YEARS MAIDEN STAKES (D) (DIV II) £4,000 added 1m 100yds

BETTING: 7-4 Royal German, 7-2 Dom Shedeed, 9-2 Daphne's Doll, 6-1 Neked Oat, 8-1 Parting Echo, 16-1 Nep In Sharp, 25-1 others FORM VERDICT A clear apportunity for DAPHNE'S DOLL to open her account. Har Nottingham third to Maria Isabella and lest week's Ling-field winner Tumbleweed Hero is the best form on ofter and

- 9 declared -

4.20 BOWMER AND KIRKLAND HANDICAP (CLASS E) £3,750 added 5f

she is preferred to Dom Shadeed and Royal Germa

2000 SOURCE CORFIE (56) (CDI) D Chapman 6 10 L., Fanning 4 B 20020 POLAR MIST (5) (C) Mrs N Macauley 3 9 13.... Michaem 13 20100 MISS HIT (5) (D) Miss G Kellewey 3 9 9........ Whitwarth 3 100305 FEATHERSTONE LANE (168) (CD) Miss L Sicial 7 9 9...... 6 (SOOD) PRIDE OF BRIXTON (18) (CD) P Evens 5 97.....

RODOOD RUSSIAN ROMEO (18) (C) B McMahon 3 9 4 ... V Hallday 10 B

- 13 declared = BETTING: 5-1 Pride Of Brixton, 6-1 Soaked, 7-1 Sweet Magic, 8-1 Squint Corrie, Rita's Rock Ape, Sherp Hint, 10-1 Polar Mist, 12-1 others

FORM VERDICT All eyes will be on Soaked as he attempts to break the record for the number of handicap wins in a season. However, he has

et to win here and is likely to be collared close home under yet to win mere and is away to be covared cross north throat his big weight by PRIDE OF BROCTON. The selection goes well here, is in good form and will be suited by the fast pace.

This step up in imp should suit ARBENIG, so she may be able

Cardiff v Hednesford _...
Doncaster v Rushden Exerer v Bristol Rovers (12.00)2
Fulham v Hartlepool1 idon or Norts County v Wigan. Macclesfield v Cambridge Utd memouth

Playing Friday: Darlington v Manches-ter City (8.0).
Playing Sunday: Kingstonian v Leyton Or-ent (1.0). FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP

21 Derby v Arsenal
22 Everton v Chelsea.....

19 Aston Villa v Manchester Utd 20 Blackburn v Charlton

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION 27 Bristol City v Sheff Utd.... 28 Bury v West Brom SECOND DIVISION 39 Blackpool v Chesterfield

AUTO WINDSCREENS SHIELD SOUTHERN SECTION FIRST ROUND 40 Colchester v Gillingham FOOTBALL CONFERENCE 41 Barrow v Leek Town 42 Dover v Chelrenham

TENNENTS SCOTTISH CUP FIRST ROUND

vision: Andrie v Clydebank; Falkirk v Ayr. Greenock Morton v Hiberman: Paith v Hamilton: Stranzer v St Mirren, Third Di-ulsion: Albion v Cowdenbeach.
TEN HOMES: Cardiff v Hednesford, Ful-ham v Hartlepool, Luton v Hull; Mansfield v Southport: Sounthorpe v Bedlington Terners; Wrestam v York, Yeovil v Northamp- Derby v Arsenal; Leicester ithampton: Wimbledon v Coventry. FTVE AWAYS: Doncaster v Rushden, Ex-eter v Binstol Rovers; Oldham v Brentford; Rochdale v Rotherham, Swansea v Stoke. FOUR DRAWS: Aston Villa v Man Utd: Blackburn v Charlton: Leeds v West Ham

TODAY'S NUMBER

15m

The number of Congolese Republic francs (£16,500) given by Fifa to the football Federation to enable their national team to take part in the Olympic qualifying tournament.

Milner's tale is a lesson in perseverance

Bedlington Terriers' prolific striker has shrugged off rejection by Newcastle and will be snapping at Scunthorpe's heels in the FA Cup. By Simon Turnbull

JOHN MILNER will never forget the day him into the man-

James' Park at the end of his two years as a YTS player with Newcastle United. "He said, 'Sorry: We're going to have to inform you we're not keeping you on," Milner recalled. "I was devastated."

Instead of making the grade with his former youth team colleagues - Steve Watson, Lee Clark, Alan Thompson and Robbie Elliott - Milner has spent the past six years making television screens for a living. If Kevin Keegan was looking at one on the evening of 14 November he might just have seen his one-time cast-off achieve a feat his expensivelyassembled team could not manage in August.

Keegan's Fulham - Peter Beardsley, Paul Peschisolido, Paul Bracewell, John Salako and all - put just one goal past Carl Emberson on their visit to Layer Road. Milner beat the now.' Colchester United goalkeeper twice at Doctor Pit Welfare Park to help earn Bedlington Terriers, champions of the Arnott Insurance Northern League, a famous 4-1 victory and an FA Cup second round tie this

braced for its biggest invasion Kevin Keegan called of scouts since the days when a helmet-haired youngster called Keegan drew a veritable Gang Show gaggle of the foot-ball variety to the Old Showground. At least eight clubs have made enquiries about Milner, among them Colchester. who were so impressed with their FA Cup slayer they wanted to take him with them

> back to Layer Road. At 24, Milner is not the same

'He's got what you can't coach into anyone – an instinct

for getting into goalscoring positions'

player Keegan rejected at 18. "I was a right-back in those days," he pointed out. "And I was only 5ft 5in. I shot up after I left Newcastle. I'm just under 6ft 1in

Pushed up front in a midmatch crisis for Seaham Red Star. Milner discovered he possessed a hitherto hidden striking talent. He scored a hat-trick and has been plundering prolifically ever since.

Having joined Bedlington

Scunthorpe should be via Seaham, Bishop Auckland and South Shields, his goals tally for the Northumberland Terriers stands at 95 in less than two-and-a-half seasons. The header he netted in a 3-0 FA Vase win against Ramsbottom United last Saturday took his running total for the present campaign to 30.

With the scouts struggling to

keep count, Milner - from Penshaw, the Wearside village famed for its replica of the Athenean Temple of Theseus and for offering up to the great god of English football a player who has twice struck winning shots in European Cup finals, Alan Kennedy - is hoping for an opportunity to make his name in the professional

"Td love a chance," he said. I think I'm good enough."

Keith Perry, the Bedlington manager, does not disagree. "I wouldn't go so far as to say John is a Premiership player." he said. "But he's certainly good enough to play in the First Division. He's by far the best non-League striker I've ever

Tony Lowery, the coach who grooms the Terriers, has no doubts about Milner's pedigree either. "I played in the Football League for nine years with Mansfield," he said, "and Hats off to John Milner whose goals tally for non-League Bedlington Terriers stands at 95 in less than two-and-a-half seasons David Hewitson there's no doubt in my mind that John can play at that level.

What I find with non-League players is that they have a weakness in their game. There's a reason why they're playing non-League football. But you can't really pick a fault with this lad.

No doubt at all.

"He's got a good touch. He's quick. He's very good in the air. He's strong. He holds the ball up well. And he's got what you

can't coach into anyone: an instinct for getting into goalscoring positions.

Weaknesses were apparently difficult to find in the Bedlington team as a whole when they delivered their knockout blow to Colchester. They did so, as it happens, less than 50 yards from the front door of the Scuthorpe manager's brother.

John Laws has lived in the street next to Doctor Pit Welfare Park for 14 years now. And the chances are he will have been telling his Brian, and maybe even Scunthorpe's and shook hands with every one celebrated vice-president - one of the lads," Lowery said. "It IT Botham - not to bank on a was good of him and it was cricket score when the under- great for our lads to get that dog Terriers are let off the lead on Saturday.

thing, too. "He must have been gutted by the result but he came into our dressing-room sort of respect.

This is a chance in a lifetime Jason Dozzell, one-time for us now It's unbelievable to £1.9m man and one of the think that we're one game away Colchester players stumped at from the possibility of a tie Bedlington in the first round, against Manchester United. would probably say the same You think. That can't be right:

Roma look to Nice for talent

Bedlington Terriers versus Manchester United.' But that's the FA Cup.

That is the FA Cup, of course, and the odds against it ending up as Bedlington Terriers' property in May have beer slashed since the first round from 20,000-1 to 15,000-1.

"Is that right?" John Milner said. "I'll have to have a flutter at that." But what price Kevin Keegan taking a belated chance



INTERNAZIONALE YESTERDAY terday. "I think I have inter- to zonal defence and make the ready been taken. "Lucescu signed Mircea Lucescu to preted the feeling of our fans, play more offensive." coach their star-studded but volatile team to the end of the Serie A season in May.

The Romanian's appointment, on a reported one billion the Uefa Cup and finishing seclire (£344,700) contract, was announced at the Milan club's training camp the day after the dismissal of Gigi Simoni. The veteran Italian coach was fired despite consecutive wins which kept the club in the running for the European Cup and

The Internazionale president, Massimo Moratti, had bitterly criticised the quality of play following a 3-1 victory against Real Madrid in the Wednesday and an injury-time 2-1 win against Salernitana in a league match last Sunday.

Tm convinced I did the right thing," Moratti said yes- to change the team... to switch

who were unhappy with the team's play."

ond to Juventus in the Italian league last campaign.

Inter, whose playing staff includes Ronaldo, Youri Djorkaeff, Roberto Baggio, Diego Simeone and Ivan Zamorano. are seventh in the league, five points behind the leaders, Fiorentina, with a record of five wins, two draws and four

Lucescu is a former coach of the Romanian national team, both Rapid and Dynamo Champions' League game last Bucharest and the Italian clubs Brescia and Reggiana.

After vesterday's first training session with the Inter players, he said: "I will need time

Simoni, whose stay with In-

ternazionale was a stormy one. Inter sold 60,000 season tick- said yesterday he was the vicets this season after winning tim of "an unfair, unexpected

Some Italian newspapers suggested that Simoni paid for the bad start to the season by Internazionale's Brazilian forward Ronaldo, who has been repeatedly sidelined with tendinitis in the knee and has failed to repeat his goalscoring feats of the previous season. Simoni was also criticised for his defensive tactics.

Lucescu, 53, could be keeping the Internazionale bench warm for Marcello Lippi, the Italian coach who may leave Juventus at the end of the season and join Inter for the

1998-99 campaign. However, Moratti denied a decision for next season had al-

can prove he deserves to coach a great team," Inter's president said. "He could be a more lasting solution."

A Singapore soccer referee was jailed for eight months for accepting bribes to fix a match two years ago. it was reported vesterday. Ramasamy Rajandran, 45, of

the Football Association of Singapore, which oversees the domestic soccer league, was sentenced on Monday in a district court for fixing an August 1996 match between Police Football Club and Sembawang Rangers, The Straits Times

Singapore's Corrupt Practices Investigation Bureau received a tip and arrested him on three charges of corruption. Ramasamy was also fined 10,250 Singapore dollars

ROMA, THE Italian Serie A the French Second Division. club, are close to taking over France's Second Division team Nice in an effort to expand the

growth of young talents.

A spokesman for the Roman club, which is owned by Italian industrialist Francesco Sensi, said yesterday that negotiations with Nice had entered the

But the formal, final agreement has not yet been reached," the spokesman said. Club officials said the control of the French team was in-

tended to give Roma the possibility of fishing for youngsters in France and other countries. 'Nice would be a sort of breeding ground for young players and for those players

Roma can't immediately field," the spokesman explained. Roma are currently second to Fiorentina in the Serie A

standings while Nice are last in

The Juventus manager, Luciano Moggi, yesterday defend-

> decision to only stay in Istanbul for the day for tonight's politically charged Champions' League game against Galatasaray. The Italian league champions, who need a victory against the Turkish team to keep their

qualifying chances alive, decided they will travel to Istanbul today and return home immediately after the game. Uefa, European football's

governing body, which requires teams to arrive the day before European Cup matches, was critical of Juventus decision.

"Juventus feels there are well grounded motives for failing to conform to Uefa directives," said Moggi, the general director of the Turin team which is owned by the Agnelli

Juventus yesterday confirmed their travel plans for the match, already postponed by seeking a move back to Enged as "well grounded" the one week after Italy's refusal to land from Atletico Madrid. The extradite a Kurdish rebel 25-year-old Brazilian midfieldleader prompted anti-Italian er was angry at being left on the

demonstrations in Turkey. Several Juventus players. who had initially refused to travel to Istanbul, bowed to the club decision to play Galatasaray but criticised the Uefa stand.

"We have been forced to play a game conditioned by political motives." said the goalkeeper Angelo Peruzzi.

The captain, Antonio Conte, said that the Italian government and Uefa had ignored the Italian team. "Uefa and the government have claimed that there are no security problems in Istanbul... but as far as we know no Uefa nor government representative will be in Istanbul today."

bench for Saturday's win at Barcelona, but said: "I know nothing about the alleged interest of certain English teams. I expect to stay at Atletico and work at keeping my place even if I do have a great love for Middlesbrough.'

The former Middlesbrough

favourite Juninho has denied

Juninho, who signed a five year contract for Atletico last year, was hugely popular at Boro and was voted the club's player of the year.

He reluctantly left after they were relegated, moving to Spain for £12m. A return to Middlesbrough would be well received on Teesside, although Spanish media reports said Aston Villa and Chelsea are also monitoring the situation.

Raul finds route to world club win over Vasco

REAL MADRID were crowned Vasco had 15 shots on goal, one world club champions for the first time since 1960 when they overcame Vasco da Gama of Brazil to win the World Club (Intercontinental) Cup 2-1 in

Tokyo yesterday. Real Madrid, whose indifferent domestic league form has left them currently eighth in the Spanish first division. capitalised on an opening own goal by Vasco to regain the form and pride that carried them to the European Cup last May.

"This win will give us impetus for the rest of the season." said the Real Madrid coach, Guus Hiddink. "Tonight we were a bit lucky with the first goal, but we kept attacking and that's what won it for us."

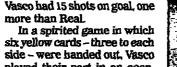
Real, skilfully marshalled by Fernando Hierro and Manuel Sanchis at the back and inspired by Raul in attack, gave a battling display that was ultimately too good for the possibly due to spending 12 days in Japan without a match.

"We just gave Real too much space to do what they wanted.

more than Real

side - were handed out, Vasco played their part in an open, attacking match which tipped

his own net Brazilian side, who mixed some 57th minute they were excellent approach play with rewarded. The Real goalkeepperiods of sluggish mediocrity, er Bodo Illgner parried two They took the few chances they own box. However, Juninho. had, we didn't," the Vasco whose namesake plays for



Real's way after 25 minutes when Naza headed into his own net when it looked easier to clear. The goal came after the **Dutch** international Clarence Seedorf found Roberto Carlos with a long-range crossfield pass. The Brazilian collected the ball wide on the left and whipped in a speculative cross to where Naza, standing alone six metres from his own goal, appeared to lose his sense of direction and headed the ball past Carlos Germano and into

The Brazilians changed their tactics in the second half opting for longer balls that put the Real defence under increasing pressure and in the shots at close range and Real appeared to have weathered the danger with a high lofted clearance to the edge of their coach, Antonio Lopes, said. Real's city rivals Atletico, did



superbly, trapping the ball with his left foot, cutting inside a defender and unleashing an unstoppable rising shot with his

right foot from 20 yards. Both teams went close to scoring and Real could have taken the lead after 78 minutes but Savio's powerful downward header was saved by Carlos

From the break Felipe went on a penetrating run deep into goalkeeper for the winner. the heart of Real's territory,

leaving two defenders in his contribution earned him a Toywake, but his angled shot, with only Illgner to beat, bounced

agonisingly wide of the far post. Raul, though, made no mistake at the other end with just seven minutes to play. Another long, raking pass from Seedorf found Raul, who brilliantly eluded two defenders before planting a perfectly-placed curling right foot shot wide of the That goal, and his overall

ota car as man of the match from the sponsors.

Real, whose only previous victory in this competition came in the inaugural match in 1960, followed Ajax (1995), Juventus (1996) and Borussia Dortmund (1997) as recent European winners - the first time that teams from Europe have triumphed for four successive seasons in the compe-

revive his United career

Sheringham to get his Man- Graham's side. chester United career back on track against his former club Tottenham at White Hart Lane Sheringham needs a good

performance in the Worthington Cup quarter-final to persuade his manager, Alex Ferguson, he is the man to partner Dwight Yorke in attack. The England striker has

started just two games this season, both in the Champions' League, and the last of those was on 30 September against Bayern Munich. Sheringham has found himself out of favour in the cut-

throat battle for striking places at Old Trafford, while he has also missed a large chunk of the campaign with damaged knee ligaments. Sheringham has now recovered from that injury and he made his comeback as a substitute in Sunday's victory over Leeds.

Now he is ready for his third start of the season and Ferguson said: "Teddy Sheringham will figure against Tottenham."

Ryan Giggs, another who is fit again after breaking a bone in his foot, will play and the Norwegian duo of Ole Gunnar Solskjaer and Henning Berg are

also expected to feature. Ferguson has used his second string in the Worthington Cup and he knows his team face Billy McKinlay, Jason Wilcox to talk to Brian Kidd.

THE STAGE is set for Teddy a difficult tie against George and Garry Flitcroft But French

Sheringham hoping to

He realises that this game will be his fledglings' toughest challenge yet after wins over Bury and Nottingham Forest.

"Under George, Spurs have got their show on the road a bit." he said. "Even though they lost on Saturday, going to West Ham is always a difficult game. They have some excellent players and they seem to be a bit fitter now, so it's going

to be really tough for us. Ronny Johnsen, who has missed United's last five games with an ankle injury, could be fit enough to play, while teenagers Jonathan Greening and Mark Wilson stand by for their third outings in the competition. Other youngsters, like Phil Mul. ryne, John Curtis and Michael Clegg, are also likely to play.

The Blackburn caretaker manager, Tony Parkes, will be without Chris Sutton for tonight's quarter-final at Leicester. Sutton has completed a fourmatch ban but is still troubled with injury. To make matters worse for Parkes, recent £4m

buy Nathan Blake is cup-tied. That leaves the door open for the club record signing, Kevin Davies, to start alongside the Scottish international Kevin Gallacher. Blackburn are still missing long-term absentees

midfielder Sebastien Perez, out for a couple of months with a knee problem, is back.

"We need a win somehow and from somewhere," admitted Parkes, who knows a cup win would boost confidence for the long battle against relegation that lies ahead.

"This is another massive game for us and we will be treating it with the importance of a League fixture. Any competition that offers you Wembley and the possibility of Europe is big," he added. Blackburn will again include

a trio of teenagers in wingers Damien Duff and Damien Johnson, and midfielder David Dunn. Blake drops out of the squad that was on duty at Liverpool on Sunday, while the centre-back Darren Peacock is

still missing with a broken toe. The Blackburn chief executive, John Williams, insists that the club has drawn up a short list and is making "good progress" in the bid to find a successor to Roy Hodgson.

But Rovers' options appeared to have narrowed. The former Ewood Park hero Colin Hendry has distanced himself from a return in a player-manager role by pledging his future to Rangers and the Manchester United chairman, Martin Tim Sherwood, Tim Flowers, Edwards, will not allow Rovers

Perry knock-out blow to Woodward

حكدًا من الأجل

PIFTEEN MONTHS into his jenure as England coach, Clive Woodward has yet to send his optimum starting line-up into the international arena. At this rate, he could wait 15 years and still not manage it. No sooner had he welcomed David Rees, his favourite right wing, back of wooziness. into the squad for this weekend's historic confrontation with the Springboks at Twickenham than his favourite fullback, Matt Perry, was sidelined by medical staff who belatedly

BY CHRIS HEWETT

decided that concussion, rather than the lingering after-effects of a good Saturday night, was to blame for a sudden outbreak

Perry will not play again for a mandatory three weeks, which is grim news for his country and a near disaster for his club, Bath, who face make-or-break Allied Dunbar Premiership

matches with Northampton and claim that rare distinction. But is positive - he will surely reclaim His likely replacement is the right boot to go with some gen-Northampton full-back, Nick Beal, who was a Lion, albeit a pe- had more than a little to do with ripheral one, during last year's triumphant romp around South Africa. Beal did not exactly cover himself in glory during England's laughably mishan-

dled trip to the southern hemi-

the sharp upturn in Northampton's fortunes. Woodward is virtually certain to make further, alterations to his back division following last weekend's curate's egg effort sphere during the summer, of an against the Wallabies. Assuming embarrassingly over-matched Rees is fully recovered from his back division, only the two seemingly interminable groin

Matts, Perry and Dawson, could problems - the news from Sale

Saracens before Christmas. he possesses a howitzer of a the No 14 shirt and allow the coach to shift Tony Underwood uine gas and his recent form has to left wing. Will Greenwood, another victim of rampant groinism, will return to the centre provided he responds to treatment over the next 24 hours.

As ever, though, the outsidehalf position remains the great imponderable. Will it be Paul Grayson, dodgy knee willing, or Mike Catt, dodgy radar willing? Or even Alex King, the Wasps stand-off effectively jettisoned

by Woodward after the New Zealand leg of the summer tour, but granted the most unexpected of reprieves.

He provides me with an option at No 10," acknowledged the coach yesterday, a mere five months after deciding that his only option was to book the same player a seat on the earliest flight out of Auckland.

The best King can realistically hope for is a seat on the bench, which will be his for the taking if Gravson succumbs to

the knee injury he suffered half an hour into the Wallaby Test. Garath Archer of Newcastle, were omitted from the party Still it is gratifying to see the 23year-old playmaker involved again at the top level. He remains the most subtle attacking stand-off available to Woodward and in a courageous response to the humiliations inflicted upon him by 15 snarling Maoris during a desperate night in Rotorua last June, he has worked hard

to beef up his defence. Two regular squad members, Tom Beim of Sale and

were omitted from the party vesterday and if Beim is getting used to the feeling, Archer, the one ever-present lock in England's engine room last season. will not have felt quite so depressed since Jack Rowell shelved him after two appearances in the 1996 Five Nations. The message from on high is clear. Tim Rodber is the coming man in Woodward's second row. Archer faces a long, hard

Westwood in 'dented trophy' dispute

GOLF

LEE WESTWOOD yesterday reacted to criticism from the Australian Golf Union that he returned his replica of the Australian Open trophy broken and dented. Colin Phillips, the AGU's executive director, said that an explanation was sought from Westwood's manager, Andrew Chandler, after the £8,500 trophy had to be repaired by a Melbourne

Westwood is not defending the title in Adelaide this week, having decided to accept an invitation to the Million Dollar Challenge at Sun City in South Africa. From there he commented: "The trophy was returned on 21 September and duly signed for by the Australian Golf Union as being received in perfect condition.

"I am surprised that two days prior to the Million Dollar Challenge and the Australian Open they have decided to air their grievances." According to Phillips, the

cup was broken at the base and had dents in the top when officials opened its velvet-lined shipping box.

The AGU also claim that they learnt indirectly that Westwood was not defending his Australian Open crown. On that Westwood countered: "I



Tiger Woods (centre) enjoys a practice round in preparation for this week's Million Dollar Challenge in Sun City, South Africa

play in the Million Dollar Challenge with the world's top 12

withdrew on 2 September ex- world's best and I believe that He was criticised for pulling after the Masters in April, citplaining I had been invited to any other professional would have made the same decision."

It is not the first time this golfers. It is a terrific opportu- year that Westwood's with- scratched from the MCI Clasnity for me to play against the drawal has upset organisers. sic in South Carolina the week ing won twice in Japan last in golf - around £625,000.

out of the Western Open in Chicago the week after the US Open in June, and he also

ing tiredness. In Sun City, Westwood is

trying to finish his season with a third successive victory, hav-

month to take his tally of sucresses this year to seven.

Colin Montgomerie, Tiger Woods and Ernie Els are also in the field for the richest prize

stage a 14-team tournament or

to extend it to 16 by adding Rus-

A date has yet to be reached

for a World Club Championship

decider between Wigan and

Brishane next year, Wigan, who

want to avoid the match falling

between two rounds of the

Challenge Cup, have suggest-

ed 6 February at Bolton, but the

Broncos want to play on 19

from Bioemendaal, has led the

Netherlands to Olympic and

world gold and victory in the

Champions Trophy. The Dutch

are expected to draw from that

sia and Italy.

Kiwis geared up to defend title

THE DUBAI Rugby Sevens kicks off this week with Fiji's mantle as the kings of the running game under threat from a strong New Zealand squad defending their title.

The Kiwis, gold medallists at the Commonwealth Games in September, have lost their captain, Eric Rush, to injury. However, the coach, Gordon Tietjens, says he expects a strong showing, with fellow veteran Dallas Seymour taking over the captaincy.

The New Zealanders include the highly rated 19-year-old Rico Gear. "He has a lot of vision and is quick," Tietjens ent and very much one for the

Fiji have been training hard in an effort to take the £15,000 first prize and avenge last year's narrow loss in the final. hard-hitting prop One Hunga, are also highly rated and Rory Underwood's England select should prove no pushovers.

The competition also involves Tonga, France, Scot-land, Canada, the United States and rank outsiders Morocco and Chinese Taipei.

Pat Howard and Fritz van Heerden return to the Leicester side following a six-week absence in tomorrow night's tour game against Fiji at Welford Road. Australian centre on the left wing.

Howard (broken jaw) and South African lock van Heerden (toe injury) were both hurt during Leicester's defeat by London Irish on 20 October.

The Tigers. Allied Dunbar Premiership leaders, will hope that both players emerge unscathed ahead of a tough trip to the League champions, Newcastle, in 11 days' time.

"It is a big return for both of them in what is a very big game," the Leicester manager, Dean Richards, said. "Fiji will want to finish their tour in style, and have only lost one match so far. It's our aim to make that two defeats, and the said. "He's a good sevens tal- comebacks of Pat and Fritz can only help."

Scotland's crushing 85-11 victory over Portugal on Saturday was put in perspective yesterday as the Iberian visitors changed over half the side for But Western Samoa, with the their own World Cup meeting with Spain at Murrayfield tonight. Only three of the XV which started against Jim Telfer's side begin in the same positions against the Spanish. confirming the suspicion that Scotland were facing what amounted to a second-string Portuguese side.

In all there are eight new faces in the starting line-up, with four further positional changes, the versatile flanker Miguel Portela finding himself

Ulster expect sell-out for Toulouse Cup tie

ULSTER OFFICIALS are expecting their first sell-out day week's European Cup quarter-final against Toulouse in Belfast. Ravenhill's 12,000 capacity should be reached by close of business tonight, according to the Ulster chief ex-

ecutive, Michael Reid. "The last time we had a sell-out was for the All Blacks' visit 12 years ago," he said. 'We've been getting great crowds at Ravenhill for our European Cup matches staged on a Friday night, and the atmosphere when Toulouse were there in the pool stage was su-

Toulouse currently have a more pressing engagement to worry about - their appearance before a European Rugby Cup disciplinary panel in Dublin from our victory." next Monday.

The tournament director, Roger Pickering, has requested that sanctions be taken final, with financial penalties against the Toulouse French international prop. Franck Toulouse Pontypridd, Brive, Tournaire, for alleged threat- Llanelli and Pau all received ening behaviour towards a five-figure fines last season fol-

Ebbw Vale on 7 November. Other unnamed Toulouse

players and members of the official club party are also in the crowd for 12 years to watch Fri-dock for their part in alleged related incidents.

The panel will consist of the ERC chairman, Tom Kiernan, Charlie Bisset (Scottish Rugby Union) and Terry Burwell (Rugby Football Union).

Toulouse have since apologised to Ebbw Vale, who won the match 19-11. via a telephone call from their chief executive, Jean-Luc Bromont, on behalf of the club president. Rene Bouscatel

"Through their chief executive we were offered a very profuse apology on behalf of their president," said the Ebbw Vale chief executive, Ray Harris. "They also added that they were sorry their behaviour after the game had detracted

Tournaire could receive a han, which would probably rule him out of the Ulster quarterlikely to be imposed on touch judge after the defeat at lowing on-pitch violence which marred the competition, which was eventually won by Bath.

70 28.11 -5C Lt snow

England forced to Britain bound for Olympic venue relive nightmare

ENGLAND ARE having to endure severe sub-zero temper-Stures in Kiev before tonight's Luropean Championship semifinal round with the Ukraine and that is just in the hotel Their coach, Laszlo Nemeth, and his players are reliving the nightmare of last season's trip to Belarus, when the team were fed pot noodles and bis-

That trip promoted a player protest, backed by Nemeth. who was suspended before his squad made it clear they would not appear for the national team unless he was reinstated. "My players are in a psychological war. Their rooms are sub-zero and the temperature outside is minus 14 degrees

cuits because of the poor food.

> 0 j

Fahrenheit." Nemeth said. Nemeth, a Hungarian, hinted that he might be better suited to surviving than his players. "Westerners are not used to coping with these elements. You always expect hard trips to

BASKETBALL

BY RICHARD TAYLOR these places, but this one

seems particularly brutal." But he also suggested his players are determined to cope: "We have more younger guys in the team than last year and they are really fighting it." England travelled to the

Ukraine via Hungary from Spain, where they lost their seventh group match 74-58 on Saturday. They also encountered problems on the bus journey from Budapest to Kiev when exhaust fumes filled the sleeping compartments.

England must win tonight then beat Belarus, at home, and Israel, away in February, to have a hope of securing an automatic qualifying place for next year's finals in France. Neville Austin has signed for Thames Valley Tigers from the Belgian club, Bree.

GREAT BRITAIN will play in

the newly opened Olympic stadium in Sydney when they head south to tackle Australia and New Zealand next autumn. Stadium Australia, now tak-

city's western suburbs, will host the final of the Tri-Nation series. Even if Britain fail to qualify for that - a possibility on current form - they will play one of the Oceania nations as part of a double-header that day, 5 November

RUGBY LEAGUE

BY DAVE HADFIELD Before that, Britain will meet

Australia in Brisbane and New ing shape at Homebush in the Zealand in Auckland. The free team at each of those matches will play the extra team, to be decided between the likes of Papua New Guinea, Fiji, Tonga and Western Samoa by qualifying matches earlier next year. Louis Luyt, the former pres-

ident of the South African expected today on whether to Rugby Union, is pressing for regular international events at Ellis Park in Johannesburg and is keen to stage the World A decision has yet to be be

made, however, on whether that tournament should be revived next year or in 2000. France have offered to stage

one of the qualifying groups for the World Cup, scheduled for Britain in 2000. A decision is

Dancer tries new combination against Dutch

THE ENGLAND coach, Barry Dancer will use this evening's testimonial against the Netherlands - for Jacques Brinkman, the Amsterdam midfielder who has set a Dutch record of 287 international appearances - to run the rule over most of the players selected for last

month's Champions Trophy. England were disappointed when on Foreign Office advice, another Cannock defender,

BY BILL COLWILL

event in Lahore. Now Dancer has made a couple of changes to the squad: Cannock's Kalbir Takher comes in for his injured club-mate Michael Johnson and

Andy Humphrey, will replace captain, Cees-Jan Diepeveen Jon Wyatt, who is being rested. Dancer will be looking to consolidate on the performance in Malaysia in the Common-

wealth Games, but will be well aware of the task before his team. England have not beaten the Dutch since their 2-1 win at Preston in 1990.

Brinkman, who betters the record of another former Dutch

squad for tonight's game.
ENGLAND SOUAD: B Wangb (capt), D
Woods (both Southgate), S Mason, H
Hoskin, M Pearn, B Barnes (all Reading), J Halls, A Humphrey, B Sharpe,
J Lewis, Kaibir Takher (all Cannock), S
Haad (East Grinstead), J Wallis, B Garrard (Reddingron), R Garda (Harvestehuder, Hamburg), D Hall (Guildford).

AMERICAN FOOTBALL NFL: San Francisco 49ers 31 New York Giants 7.

RASEBALL

Baltimore Orioles have completed their \$65m, five-year contract with Abert Belle making the controversial slugger the highest-paid player in franchise history.

BASKETBALL

Jose Ortiz, the Puerto Rican who

played with Utah Jazz before trying his luck in Europe, has had a two-

year drugs ban confirmed by Fiba, the international basketball feder-

ation. Ortiz twice tested positive for stanozolol, in August and Septem-

ber, while with the Greek club PAOK Salonika. PROFESSIONAL PROMOTION: British PROFESSIONAL PROMISE IN MAIN middleweight championship (Man-chester): H Eastman (London) bt 5 Fos-ter (Manchester) rsf 7h; Communicath light-weiterweight championship: P Burke (Manchester) bt E Magee (Belfast)

CYCLING Three Festina riders were told by a French judge yesterday they had failed drug tests during this year's Tour de France. The Frenchmen Richard Virenque, the former world thampion Laurent Brochard and Pascal Herve were invited by the Lille investigating magistrate, Patrick Kell, to hear the test results after

they filed a petition to have access

FOOTBALL Mustapha Hadji, the Moroccan mid-

fielder, was yesterday named Africa's Footballer of the Year by the Con-federation of African Football in

federation of African Football in Cairo.

SUSPENSIONES: FA Carling Premierships Sendings-off: S Collymore (Aston Villa).

S Stoom (Notungham Fores) both 1 match from 5 December; J O'Shea (Manchester Urd) 1 match from 8 December, Fise Castions: N Williamshim (Arsenal) 1 match from 6 December; J Reakunapp (Liverpool) 1 match from 6 December; J Reakunapp (Liverpool) 1 match from 6 December; J Coember, National Football League: Sandings off: J Wilkidnson (Rochdale), 5 Morgan (Burnley) both 1 match from 7 December, National (2) (Barnsley) 4 matches from 5 December; J Gayle (2) (Scunthorpe) 2 matches from 5 December; J Stuart (2) (Millwall) 2 matches from 5 December; J Stuart (2) (Millwall) 2 matches from 5 December; J Suart (2) (Millwall) 2 matches from 5 December; D Shora (Bristol Rovers) 1 match from 5 December; F Jones (2) (Hartlepool) 4 matches from 5 December; B Darnets (Port Vale) 1 match from 5 December; B Manches from 5 December; P Beare (Bury) 1 match from 5 December; P Beare (Cort) 1 match from 5 December; P Beare (Bury) 1 match from 8 December; L Buckessam (Fullam) 1 match from 12 December; B Sinclair (Rochdale) all 1 match from 8 December: C Woodshorpe (Srockport) 2 matches from 8 December; L Buchmann (Fulbarn) 1 match from 12 December; B Sincilar (Gillingham) 3 matches from 9 December; P Holland (Chestrefield) 3 matches from 5 December; Pharacles (Brackpool), 1 Hills (Blackpool), 1 Herdarsson (Brentford), G Goodsfidge (Bristol City), 3 Roberts (Bristol Rovers), R Problas (Carlisle Utd), C Foster (Crystal Palace), P Holobs (Gillingham), 5 Hannes (Hull), D Johnson (Ipswich), C Flemfag (Norwich); K O'Neel (Norwich), M Bodieg (Petertiorough), A Lockwood (Roading), M Sparrow (Scunthorpe), V

SPORTING DIGEST

Borbokis (Shefficid Utd.), G Ndah (Swindon), I. Hughes (West Bromwich.), J Borg (Bury) A De Zeetme (Barnsley), S Brown (Wycombe) all 1 match from 5 December: C Marsden (Birmingham) 1 match from 6 December: B Wiodrall (Scarborough) 1 match from 8 December: Eight castsloss: JB Windslow (Bolton), G Lee (Hartlepool), N Marfox (Sheffield Utd.), J Wan Blerk (West Bromwich), A Hessenthaler (Glüngham) all 1 match from 5 December.
TOYOTA CUP (Tolkyo): Real Madrid (Spl 2 (Naza og 25, Raul 83) Vasco De Gama (Bra) 1 (Jumnho 57).
MONDAY'S LATE RESURJ'S: Endsleigh MONDAY'S LATE RESULTS: Endele

(Bra) 1 (Junno 57).

MONDAY'S LATE RESULTS: Endslaigh Trophy second round: Hednesford 1 Northwich 3. Pootins League Second Division: Newcastie 0 Huddersfield 0: Sheff Utd 1 Uncoin 0. Auon Insurance Combination First Division: Arsenal 2 OPR 0: Chelsea 3 Fufham 0: Ipswich 0 Northampton 1. FR Umbro Trophy second round replay: Hitchin Town 2 Hereford 1. Ryssam League Pursa Cap Second round: Purfeet 2 Billericay Town 1. Uni-Bond League Preniar Division: Ashton Utd 2 Radcofffe Borough 1. Challange Cap second round: Emicy 2 Huchnall Town 2. Dr. Martens League Mediand Division: Corrected results from Saturdays Blakenall 1 Stamford 4: Hinchley Utd 0 Newport AFC 0. Postponed: Evesham Utd v Shepshed Dynamo. FA Carlsberg Vese second round: Corrected results: Bicester 1 Tham 3 (net). Asbe Gemes (Bangtok), Prellinioary group: Group A: Turkmenistan 2 Vietnam 0. Group B: China 4 Lebanon 1, Group F: Oman 6 Hong Kong 0.

ICE HOCKEY NHL: Montreal 3 Los Angeles 1.

MOTORCYCLING The Brazilian Alex Barros yesterday signed a two-year contract to race for the Barcelona-based Honda-Pons team. As part of the deal Barros, who finished fifth in this year s 500cc world championship, will be

MOTOR RACING Ford have extended their contract with the Stewart Formula One Grand Prix team until 2001.

Australia's National Rugby League competition will shrink from 20 teams in 1998 to at most 18 in 1999 with yesterday's announcement of ise of the Adelaide Rams The Gold Coast Chargers were also ripped to close, which would leave 17 teams next year following the merger of 5t George-Illawarra. Gateshead have signed the Irish in-ternational winger, Brian Carney.

RUGBY UNION

RUGBY UNION SMALEC Cup Fourth and Fifth round draws: Group A: Ebbw Vale v Tretherbert. 'Dicas Powys v Pontypool Utd Group B: Glynneath v Irimszran; 'Cross Keys v Dunvant Group C: Bridgend v Treorict: 'Talywain v Nantymoel Group D: Pontypool v Rhigos or Moumain Ast: 'Ynysddu or Beddau v Whitand Group D: Pontypool v Rhigos or Moumain Ast: 'Ynysddu or Beddau v Whitand Group E: Whedama v Neath: 'Penygraig v Rhymney. Group P: 'Yarragynlais v Nardre: 'Monmouth v Llanhilleth. Group G: Llanharan v Newport: 'Risca v Swanséa. Group H: 'Harberth u Caerphilly: Carnavon v Bedwas. Group J: 'Narberth v Caerphilly: Carnavon v Bedwas. Group J: 'Abertsmool v Maserge Betws [Ammandord) v Bischwood. Group W: 'Pontychun v Lanelli. Blaetgarn v Ynysybu. Group L: Pencod v Aff's Hell. Group N: 'Indeger v Merrhyr. Builth Wells v Runney Group O: Aberavon v Camarten Quins: 'Ystrad Rhonda's South Wales Police. Group P: 'Bommanen v Newbridge: Oakdale v UWIC. (" Winners of these games hove home odvontage in Fith round opains; winners of other march in group. fourth-round tes to ployed on 19 December).

SKIING VISA SUPER SERIES (Aspen, Colorado) Men's Super-G: 1 P Iserbyn (Swe) Imin 15,77sec, 2 P Runggalder (k) 1:15,80; 3 V Lavoie (Can) 1:16,33; 4 F Nyberg (Swe) 1.16.43, 5 C Greber (Aut) 1.16.44; 6 E Seletto (It) 1:16.45, 7 F Strobl (Aut) 1:16.65; 8 D Spencer (US) 1:16.65; 9 M Rauffer (Ger) 1:16.75; 10 S Gros (US) 1:16.79.

SQUASH

SQUASH

MARHINDRA WORLD OPEN CHAMPIOMSRIP (Doha, Catar) First roand: M

Berrett (Eng) bt S Meads (Eng) 15-9 15-11

13-15-15-15-15-13-B Davis (Aus) bt N Dugan
(Eng) 9-15-9-15 17-15-5-7 15-11: T Lindou
[Fr) bt Zarak Jahan (Nun (Pak) 14-17 15-5

15-12-15-12-14-111 (Hus) bt J Raumolin (Fin)
15-7 17-15-12- AHII (Hus) bt J Raumolin (Fin)
15-7 17-15-12- N Taylor (Eng) bt A Boachii (Eng)
bt J Boneratt (Fr) 15-11 6-15 15-9 15-8 M

Cairns (Eng) bt G Whittaker (SA) 15-13 15
13-15-15-12: N Taylor (Eng) bt A Ababan
(Eg) 15-7 15-6 ret; A Gough (Mai) bt Abdul
Faheem (Man (HK) 15-10 15-10 15-13: T

Hands (Eng) bt M M Morsi (Eg) 15-13: T

Hands (Eng) bt M M Morsi (Eg) 15-13: T

15-8 17-16 15-13: M Heath (Sco) bt A Ricketts (Aus) 16-17 15-14 1-15 15-13 15-7; A

Barda (Eg) bt J Kneipe (Aus) 15-13 12-15

15-13 15-11: Amiad (Khan (Pak) bt D Forstand
(Swe) 11-15 15-12 15-12 5-15 15-11: G Ryding (Can) bt A Faizy (Eg) 15-118 15 17-15

15-11; T Gamer (Eng) bt Mohammed Hussan (Pak) 15-11 (15-18

SWIMMING

Gary Hall, the American Olympic champion, was yesterday cleared to swim in a World Cup meet in Texas last night despite a marijuana-related suspension in operation to 12 De-cember. The United States District Judge Roger Strand, who issued a Judge Roger Strand, who issued a temporary restraining order on Monday allowing Hall to compete, stuck by his ruling after giving Fina, the world governing body, a chance

TENNIS

Chris Wilkinson, Martin Lee and David will represent Great Britain in the European Men's Team Championship to be held at Monte

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SPORT

MALLETT, THE SPRINGBOK HAMMER P24 • RABBITS AND DUCKS ROASTED

Strachan is Rovers' new target

BLACKBURN ROVERS are making an ambitious move to tempt Gordon Strachan to leave Coventry City and be-

Rovers have switched targets quickly after being rejected by Manchester United proach for Brian Kidd, the as- castle. sistant manager at Old asked if he will let Strachan is a player that he admires speak to Blackburn about the £750,000 a year post.

Last week Martin Edwards, ecutive, claimed the highlycoveted Kidd would only leave Old Trafford "over my dead body" and not surprisingly he has turned Rovers down.

Edwards claims Kidd. who has also been sought by Manchester City and Everton in the past, has no problems with United's decision, even though he could have quadrupled his

Strachan could be interestwant compensation of close to £1m, a figure that scared off Leeds United but will not worry. Jack Walker, Blackburn's owner Walker had put Strachan at No 2 on his wanted list behind Kidd, who has a four-year contract at Old Trafford.

Colin Hendry remains in the picture despite indicating yesterday that his future lies with Rangers.

signing David Batty from Newcastle even though the two from the two men who have clubs are unable to agree a fee for the England midfielder. They are believed to have offered £4m for Batty, who they sold to Blackburn in 1993, 52m below the Magpies' apparent

asking price. Nevertheless, the Yorkshire

BY ALAN NIXON

club's chairman, Peter Ridsdale, believes Batty, 30 today,

will be returning to Leeds, although he was in no mood to vesterday in their official ap- have his arm twisted by New-"Our manager [David Trafford Coventry's chairman. O'Leary] has made it ab-Bryan Richardson, will be solutely clear that David Batty

and would like to bring back to Leeds United," Ridsdale said. "We have made a bid. That bid Manchester United's chief ex- currently falls short of Newcastle's valuation but at the end of the day, we won't overpay for It is thought that if Leeds

were to increase their offer to £4.5m then they would clinch a deal. The agreement of Batty's personal terms is seemingly a formality.

Batty turned up for training at Newcastle's Chester-le-Street training headquarters yesterday morning four days ed in the move but Coventry after apparently taking his leave when he handed in a written transfer request to the St James' manager, Ruud Gul-

Douglas Hall and Freddy Shepherd yesterday launched an attempt to return to the board of Newcastle United's plc. Already back on the football club's board as the chairman and vice-chairman respectively, they now appear very likely Leeds remain confident of to return to the pic's board as well, reclaiming their places been their representatives on the board. John Fender and Tom Fenton.

In July, when the pair were reinstated to the club board. they signed letters which appeared to state that they did not intend to rejoin the plc.

The pair left both boards after mocking Newcastle fans for paying high prices for repli-ca kits, dubbing Alan Shearer "Mary Poppins" and branding Tyneside women "dogs".

Ian Rush will be asked to take over as the manager of Wrexham as part of a major takeover by Steve Morgan, the millionaire owner of the house building firm, Redrow Morgan, who is based in Jersey, is close to tying up a deal worth about £2m to buy the club and pump more cash into the Second Division club.

Morgan met Wrexham officials yesterday to thrash out the price of the purchase and he is expected to be in charge of the Welsh club before the weekend. A lifelong fan, Morgan wants to install Rush as manager above Brian Flynn in a bid to attract bigger name players and go for promotion.

Wolves have rejected an approach for their captain, Keith Curle, from their First Division rivals Bristol City. Wolves' new manager, Colin Lee, is planning to offer the 35-year-old a new contract.

Manchester City have placed Murtaz Shelia, the Georgian international, on the transfer list. The defender is surplus to requirements following the arrival of Andy Morrison from

Huddersfield. Darren Ferguson, the Wolves midfielder and son of the Manchester United manager, has joined Cosenza in Italian Serie B on a 10-day trial with a view to a permanent

Paul Hall, Coventry's Jamaican World Cup winger, last night turned down a £300,000 move to Port Vale. Robin Berntsen, who was on loan to Vale from Tromso, has returned



Manuel Sanchis (left) and Fernando Hierro, of Real Madrid, hold aloft the Intercontinental Cup and Toyota Cup after the Spanish club's 2-1 victory over Brazil's Vasco da Gama in the World Club Championship in Tokyo yesterday. Real, the European Cup holders, last won the annual contest between the top clubs from Europe and South America in 1960 Report, page 28; photograph AFP

the club also shows you are

committed in more ways than

one. And even if I was to leave

QPR, I would still want to keep

them. I have been involved in

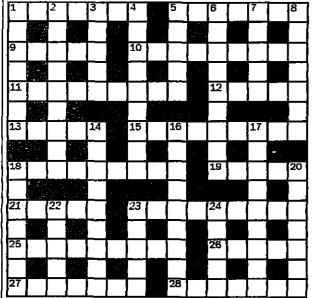
this club in one way or anoth-

er for 17 years and its in my

THE WEDNESDAY CROSSWORD

No.3783 Wednesday 2 December

By Aquila



Lamb after highball, say, could be a bloomer (7) Constant, modern rattling 25

Tree which could hide a king now? (5) 10 Artist mad to turn play-Maximum displacement

of crust here, from recent pie-throwing (9) 12 Harvest meagre, after good start (5) 13 Off-peak call (5)

15 Judgment on the way? 18 Type of injunction to tired

Hidden store of banknotes and coin, say? 21 Some Scandinavians

come back in limousines

Former individual to asess discharge (9) He strains to get out of 26 But did they increase.

these followers of Abou Ben Adhem? (5) 27 Bizarre aspect of a man excluded from a group? 28 Arresting entails shuffles

In the main, cathedral

supports endlessly slow Front-of-house arc-light?

Charge for exercising a Check on old air-condi-

tioning in houses here?

Box at lightweight? (5) Clean gas I administered as pain-reliever (9) Twinkling of an eccentric elf (5)

Followers note can in French street (7) Vicar fied about who polished off the grub (9) Establishents serving bitter families? Not neces-

sarily (9) 17 Variety of peach making heavenly drink in orient

18 Country hotel so vandalised (7) He is one (7)

22 Provided with equipment for a stroke, possibly? (5)23 Distinctive character of willingness to agree a wage cut. Meanwhile, Gerry Francis, Egyptian tom? (5) who has returned to QPR for a Crack up, runing through Essex toll-gate (5) second spell in charge, is ready to invest his own money in the

> the Month for November. Francis has done a remarkable job since Harford left, guiding his team to four wins in the last five games. QPR have already scored more goals in five weeks under Francis than

VINNIE JONES is close to up-

ping lock, stock and barrel and

heading north from Queen's

Park Rangers to aid an old ally

at Burnley, providing a settle-

ment can be agreed with the

The QPR player-coach, who

has been picking up his £4,000 a week wages despite staying

away from Loftus Road since

Ray Harford resigned two

months ago, is interested in linking-up with Stan Ternent at

Rangers transfer-listed

Jones a fortnight ago and were

hoping to collect a fee for the

Welsh international. But Ter-

nent, who worked with him at

Chelsea, wants Jones on loan.

for years. I was at Chelsea

with him and we have been

friends for a long time. Of

course, I would talk to him. But

it's between the two clubs – they

move could hinge on Jones'

Jones said: "T've known Stan

west London club.

Turf Moor.

agreement."

BY WYN GRIFFITHS

in the previous three months. And they have also won twice as many away games in the last fortnight than QPR had managed in the previous year. He said: "I have already

bought a million shares in Loftus Road plc and I am now looking to buy a lot more. I'm not about to take over the club or anything like that, but if the shares become available then I will buy them. If it all comes off, I should own a fair percentage of the club and that way I'll know there is nothing going

heart. This shows how serious "A lot of fans bought shares in the company at a good price and then saw them go down to as little as 9p. Now, hopefully, we can help those supporters get their money back and move this

club up the League." Rangers, however, are still £5.5m in debt and third from

Problem pitch may hit Darlington hopes

have got to come to an DARLINGTON'S money-spinning FA Cup second-round tie against Manchester City could Ternent has a player-coach role in mind for Jones but the be called off because the Feethams pitch has been branded dangerous, writes Alan Nixon.

Inspectors from the Football Association will look at the ground this morning following club and purchase thousands of an official complaint by Scarshares after being named borough, who were beaten 3-0 Nationwide League Manager of on the tricky surface last Sat-

If the FA agree then the tie, scheduled to be shown live on Friday night, may be postponed or rearranged at another

The Feethams turf is only

about two inches deep and Scarborough complained that the grass was moving under their players' feet, and they risked injury as Darlington

heat them at the weekend. The FA are taking the matter very seriously and their own ground experts will make a thorough check of the surface at Feethams this morning before delivering a verdict on whether the game can go ahead as planned or must be rearranged.

Darlington had to switch their previous tie with Burnley to Middlesbrough's Riverside Stadium and the same move could happen again.

Jones wanted at Turf Moor caught "I think buying shares in bottom in the First Division. by video Francis added: "We have a long way to go because we have won 12 points in November but are still in the bottom ber but are still in the bottom three. That shows what a state the club was in But our air

the club was in. But our aim

I think we will need to stay up.

Loftus Road and his immediate

success will help fans get over

the lean years when he was at

Tottenham. "I've watched

QPR's results and felt for the

fans. Unfortunately, when I was

at Tottenham I was responsible

for two wins against them

which helped send the club

down. But I didn't feel guilty. I

never wanted to leave QPR in

the first place - it was made

clear that I wasn't wanted

they gave me a standing ovation

when I went back there with

Tottenham. Now I can pay

them back by getting things

right again. I believe in my

ability to do it. "When I took over at Spurs,

they had just been beaten 3-0

by Notts County in the Cup -

and Notts County were bottom

of the Third Division. Totten-

ham were also in the bottom

four and had no cash. But I

turned it around quickly and

was manager of the month in

December and went on to get

a club record 50 games with

only four defeats. We've done

it a month early at QPR and we

want to end up with the same

kind of record."

"The fans knew that, and

there. So I had to go.

Francis hopes his return to

now is to get to 52 points as soon as possible - that his how many BY ALAN NIXON

Everton have cancelled the sale of a special edition video - because Duncan Ferguson's face is on the front cover of the tape. The embarrassed Goodison club have called off a launch of a celebration of derby victories

Everton

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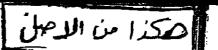
over Liverpool, which features some of the clubs legends. On the cover Ferguson is seen saluting a goal but now he is being hurriedly removed from the central shot after his controversial £8m sale to Newcastle United. A new edition is being put together in an at-

tempt to rush out a Fergie-free product in time for Christmas. The Football Association have declared their intention to resolve the misconduct case against Nottingham Forest following the "bungs" inquiry

early next year after criticism from the club at the delay. Forest's chief executive, Phil Soar, told the club's annual meeting the 11-month delay since the charges were made

was an "absolute disgrace." Forest were charged with misconduct for "failing to properly supervise their employees in a number of transfer dealings which took place while the club was managed by Brian Clough in the late 1980s and early 1990s.

OPublished by Independent Newspapers (UK) Limited, § Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL, and printed at Mirrot Colour Print, St Albana Road, Watford Back issues available from Historic Newspapers, 01988



محكذا من الاجل

VEDNESDAY

COMMENT • FEATURES • ARTS • LISTINGS •

Elizabeth David's final recipe: take one culinary saint, two rival books, addwineand sex and stir to boiling point



BY ANN TRENEMAN

isa Chaney opens the door of her house in York wearing an red apron with white polka dots. Somehow she manages to look fantastic in this, which isn't fair because, as the unauthorised biographer of the sainted food writer Elizabeth David, she really should look stressed to the hilt. It has taken a huge amount of patience and plain old etective work to discover the secrets of this alnost pathologically private woman. In the end she did it, though. The book is full of drink and lovers, including one wildly romantic adventure with a man in a boat. And there's lots of basil,

Lisa Chaney did all of this without one smidgeon of help from Elizabeth David's literary executor, Jill Norman. Jill doesn't approve of Lisa's book, and that certainly is no secret. There is a culinary scandal brewing here, though neither Lisa nor Jill will say as much. Lisa's book, Elizabeth David: A Mediterranean Passion, has just come out. It is a doorstop of a biography, but reads like the wind. Perhaps it is no coincidence that, in the end, she had to write like the wind. The pressure was on because Jill had commissioned an authorised biography from Artemis Cooper, who has had access to every-Ching that Lisa was denied: all Elizabeth David's notebooks, letters sent to her, and her drafts of letters sent. Artemis Cooper describes it as a "stunning archive". It will, says Artemis, allow her to tell "the whole story". Or, as Jill Norman puts it, "someone had to make it accurate".

Æ.

Lisa is worried that I am going to write only about the culinary row, and it is tempting. This, for instance, is Jill Norman on whether she considered giving Lisa access. "Well, I didn't think about it very long. Oh dear, it is difficult. It sounds very negative but I wasn't sure that she was a very competent biographer. The proposal that she put forward - she didn't send it to me but I was told about it - was full of factual inaccuracies. This didn't give me much confidence. I don't particularly want to knock the woman in print, because that doesn't do anybody any good."

OK, I say, let's talk about the book and not the woman. Had she read it? "I've seen the proofs. There was a lot of material in it for which they

hadn't requested permission, so some changes were made. I didn't feel it was appropriate that so much unpublished material should be quoted. Elizabeth David was a very private person and the last thing she would have wanted would be that the letters she had written as a young woman had, first of all, still survived in the family attic and that somebody proposed to make them public. So I put my foot down."

She also, it may be said, put the price up, even for the letters, mentioned above, that were discovered solely through Lisa's efforts. Jill Norman says she charged Society of Authors' rates for use of copyright. The society quotes me those rates as £95 to £115 per 1,000 words for one edition. In fact, Jill Norman has charged substantially more - at least four times more - though this does include paperback rights, and these things can fluctuate according to market value. Also, as Jill Norman points out, she could have simply forbidden the use of all material.

"But I didn't see the point. That would have been vindictive."

How Elizabeth David would have loved this! Perhaps not the book, but certainly the chaos. After all, this is a woman who died in 1992 at the age of 78 leaving a will that had six codicils. "The whole thing really was a hornets' nest," says Lisa. "At a certain point I really wasn't sure I hadn't taken on something I could cope with. One time I'd had a bad day and I said to one of her friends whom I was interviewing: I don't know if I can do this. And she said to me: Elizabeth will be up there cackling away at you."

So how did an academic whose subjects are philosophy, art history and aesthetics get involved in this? She says I can come to lunch in York and she'll tell me. Her guard is up. I think she suspects that I am a secret foodie. But I am not even an amateur foodie. In fact, until this assignment Tve had no relationship with Elizabeth David except via the odd fresh herb. Yes, I know that she revolutionised the way the English see food, etc etc, so I suppose that I have in some way been affected. But I did not cook my first dinner party from her books; I did not fall in love with Italy through her prose; I have never gushed about her in a public place.

It doesn't take long to realise that I am the odd one out on this. Everyone I talk to seems ually does, having received her nutmeg grater (with pre-used nutmeg in situ) as a wedding present from a friend who attended the 1994 Phillips auction of her goods. But even those bereft of graters have opinions. "You know, the really interesting question is whether she was a spy," said one friend. "You know, the really interesting question is whether she was a lesbian," said another. You know, I really want to know if she was a drunk," said a third.

I ask all these questions before I have even got rid of my coat. Lisa looks stunned but answers well - No, Kind Of and Not Quite being the gist of her answers to the three questions. I only run out of questions briefly over lunch because my mouth is full. "It's wonderful that you are so ignorant," says Lisa. "Foodie people can be very competitive about this. Elizabeth hated all that." Well, I'm with Elizabeth on that. Lisa is soothing. "Elizabeth hated the idea of food as fashion. She hated pretension. So much food now is down to fashion. People don't have time to cook at home. Or they go out to very smart restaurants. Elizabeth loved restaurants, but she was very fussy and could be terribly rude. She wasn't a snob about where she went, though."

We are, it turns out, eating rabbit terrine without the rabbit. I nod. Instead, it is pheasant. I nod again. This is way over my head. I was just pleased to be eating Elizabeth David's food while talking about her

Lisa is now 45, but first came across her subject through a copy of French Provincial Cooking at the age of 17. Then she used Italian Cooking as her guidebook when she went to Florence. Elizabeth David, both as a person and a writer, was a name that came up in discussion a lot over her seven years in Italy. Lisa Chaney was getting hooked and she didn't even know it.

Back in England, she found out that Elizabeth David had willed her books to the Warburg Institute. "That told me a great deal because it means she wanted to be remembered as a scholar," says Lisa. "That fits with the latter part of her life. If she died anything, it was as a scholar" At this point, she knew enough to know that she knew nothing, and that is always a good place to start. "I would meet people who knew her, and they said the usual things. That she didn't suffer fools gladly, was very impressive and rather to think they own a piece of Elizabeth. One act- scary. That she was very intelligent, with an

extraordinary memory. It was often suggested that I should try to meet her but I knew she was rather scary and I thought it was quite possible that she would say: well, why would I want to see you? So I never did.

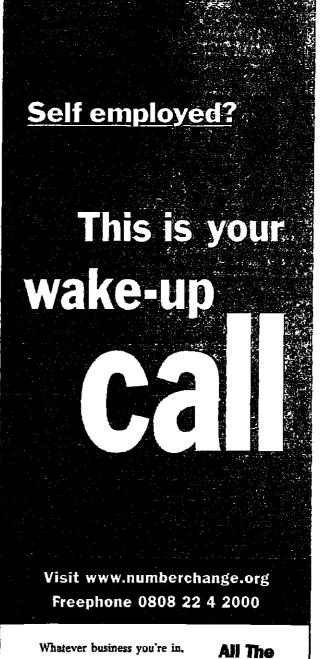
"Then, after she died, I wanted to look at her books, and that is how it really began."

She went to look at the books, expecting thousands. Instead, two trolley-loads were wheeled out. There were 380. She asked around. Elizabeth David had had between 4,000 and 10,000 books. So where were they? She asked around some more. Gradually, as she discovered what happened to those books, she realised that people were telling her wonderful stories about their owner. Lisa already believed that Elizabeth David had been a huge influence on all of us, even down to the design of our kitchens. She thought Elizabeth David's Mediterranean books were about fantasy and travel writing, but believed that her later works on English food, and how to restore it to its pre-industrial simplicity, were her mas-

She wrote an article in The Spectator and soon people starting asking her if she was doing a biography. Soon, it seemed she was. She visited Elizabeth's only remaining sister, Priscilla. Their planned half-hour meeting turned into a seven-hour one. She signed with her publishers, Macmillan, in 1995.

At this point Lisa Chaney had no idea what a wild life Elizabeth David had led. She knew the writer had been born into privilege, that her father had been an MP and that she had gone abroad just before the war, had lived around the Mediterranean during it and had come back later She knew she had been a deb and an actress not a very good one - and had had lovers and crazy times from early on. Gradually she began to hear about a man in a boat, or even two men in a boat, but no one had any real details. This went on for a year as she interviewed and interviewed. Then, finally, Eve Durrell said: "Of course I knew Charles.

The hair stood up on her neck. Charles Gibson Cowan was the ultimate outsider. He was working class, left wing, Jewish, an actor, a pickpocket, a vagabond, who lived in caves in Hastings for a time. Her mother called him a "pacifist worm". He was a sexual presence, and Continued on page 8



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eaders and comment 3-5 **Obituaries** eatures

Arts 10-11 12-13 Fashion Money Finance

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Europe: in or out

Sir: Frederick Forsyth (letter, 1 December) pinpoints the central issue of the debate about our membership of the European Union. The EU is of course committed to "ever closer union" and always has been since the Treaty of Rome in 1957. Cooperation in fields such as trade. justice, freedom of movement, environmental protection and the single currency are simply steps in that process of integration.

He is absolutely right that joining the single currency is the crux of the debate about our future world role and that there should be no more delay in declaring our position. However, it is dangerous to suggest that if we do not embrace the single currency within a reasonable period, say four years at the most, the member states in the euro will allow us to remain indefinitely as a semi-detached member of the Union. Nor will they be particularly keen to allow us to negotiate a "sovereignty-based trading relationship". When we have shown such lack of solidarity. why should they?

I agree that indecisiveness is sapping our national will and the Government ought to declare its hand soon, but we must face up to political reality. The majority of the EU will not tolerate our continued membership if we adopt a policy of refusing ever to join the EMU. We would in the end have to leave the EU and the impact on sterling, inward investment and our standing in the world would be calamitous. Life on our own on the outside will one of comparative instability, dwindling national significance and economic decline.

Let us show the national courage that has been displayed by the Republic of Ireland and commit ourselves confidently to the ideal of a European Union for the next millennium. NEIL MONTGOMERY Woodbridge, Suffolk

Sir: Lord Howe and the other signatories of the European Movement's letter (30 November) should know better. Tax harmonisation is not an optional extra in the single currency area. It is an essential element of the single currency project without which it will fall apart.

Supporters of Britain joining the single currency talk glibly about the benefits to British consumers of the price transparency that would result (they obviously assume that we cannot use calculators).

They ignore the social and economic damage that will be caused by tax transparency unless taxes are harmonised. People living within a single economy. with a single market and a single currency. must face the same tax rates throughout, otherwise there will be social unrest as people in one part of the economy complain that their tax rates are higher than those paid by their neighbours in another part of the same economy.

The other obvious result of variations in tax rates is that companies will tend to move to areas of lower taxation, causing unemployment in areas of higher taxation. Herr Lafontaine is only too aware of that, which is precisely why he wants to "harmonise" our tax rates with those in the single currency area. SALLY COTTERWAITE Brentwood, Esser

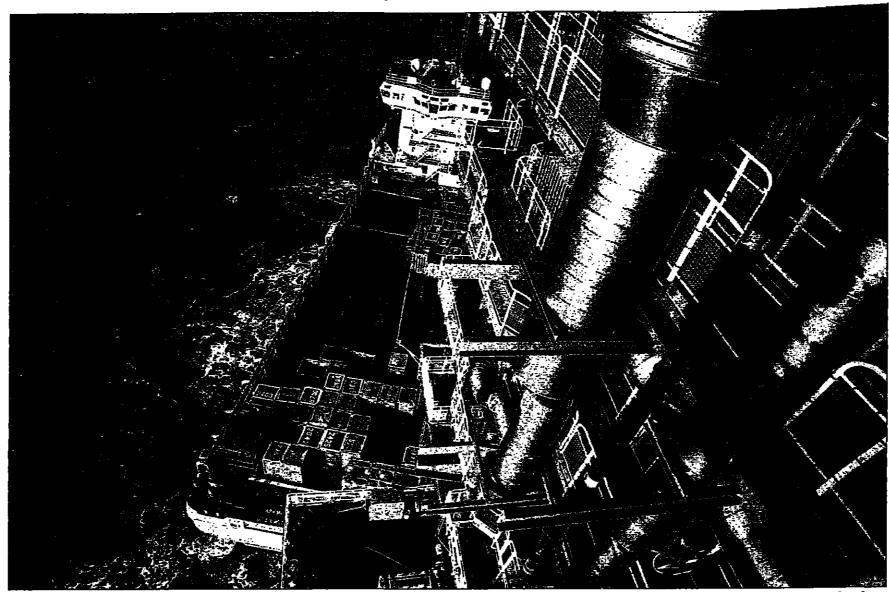
Sir: If luxuries sold to international travellers are to continue to be "duty-free" on the grounds that imposing normal taxes would lead to substantial job losses, surely the avowed goal of reducing unemployment in the EU would be better served by making wages and savings "duty free" Dr JAMES THOMPSON London W1

No nuclear peace

Sir: In answer to Dr Stephen Pullinger (letter, 28 November) it should be pointed out that nuclear weapons did not prevent the Falklands war nor the Gulf war nor countless wars since 1945

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Post letters to Letters to the Editor, The Independent, I Canada Square, London E14 5DL and include a daytime telephone number, fax to 0171 293 2056 or e-mail to letters@independent.co.uk. E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be edited for length and clarity



Roaring Forties No 3: The supply ship Skand: Hawk moored alongside the Nelson platform in the North Sea. The ship makes an eight-hour trip from Aberdeen every six days carrying provisions for the crew and materials for the running of the platform Neville Elder

which have lost millions of lives. There has to be a more imaginative response. The real threat to security will come not from states but from armed gangs. In this instance nuclear weapons would be useless. What would have been the point of nuclear weapons against the IRA?

Prevention by encouraging the growth of democracy and freedom is infinitely better than pouring billions into weapons that can never be used. ANDREW JT KERR Jedburgh. Roxburghshire

NHS rationing

Sir: The letter by a mother of a schizophrenic boy (30 November) highlights a dangerous tendency in current NHS planning. Attempts to off-load the responsibility for rationing on to the shoulders of doctors are becoming increasingly attractive to politicians. The last government managed to draw fundholding GPs into the rationing role. The present government looks set to make the same mistake through the setting up of Primary Care Groups.

While doctors may be in a good

position to judge which patients have the greatest need for resources or who may benefit most, they have no control over the amount of resources available. In a democratic country, where the NHS remains one of the most treasured possession of our community, decisions regarding the provisions of services and medication should remain in the political arena, where the electorate may exercise their will

Devolution of rationing to GPs not only creates the variable provision described by your correspondent, but it also deprives every patient of a true advocate within the health service. If a GP is having to balance the demands of several thousand patients, he cannot do his best for the individual. Rationing of health resources is

an important topic and requires a

balanced and informed public debate so that the electorate may decide what they want. The press and the media have an important role to play in leading such a debate and in ensuring that successive governments to not avoid their responsibilities. Dr NICHOLAS LEACH FRCGP Market Harborough, Leicestershire

Sir. There is nothing like a stay in a foreign hospital to make you appreciate the NHS in Britain. I recently spent three days in a

Prague hospital after being knocked down by a taxi and sustaining a fractured pelvis. I was treated with kindness by doctors and nurses but soon became aware that the prescribed treatment and the nursing care were many years behind those of the UK-only to be expected in a country which is taking its first uncertain steps to democracy and whose resources are severely stretched

When I was transferred home to Stepping Hill hospital in Stockport, it was like entering paradise in comparison with what had gone before: bright, spacious, welcoming wards, a thorough check of my condition by a doctor who discovered injuries not

Sir: Perhaps the downturn in

textile sales can be explained

colours. High street shops look

wants to spend the winter in a

combination of black and grey?

by this season's fashion

MARY DESSINGER

Leicester

like funeral parlours. Who

Sir: I read with amusement

selection of Albanian proverbs

(26 November). I am a "nobody"

Alzheimer was. Alois Alzheimer

neuro-pathologist who, in 1907,

Alzheimer's disease. She was a

documented the first case of

Miles Kington's further

who can remember who

(1864-1915) was a German

Above all, I noticed that the altogether higher level.

Pinochet's law

Sir: As a Chilean exile, I believe there are many reasons why Pinochet should not be sent back to Chile.

impossible.

There are still many disappeared in Chile. There have only been two successful prosecutions in 25 years and last month a female judge was sacked for refusing to pass on a case to the military courts. A case in Chile against Pinochet would most definitely go to a military court, where Pinochet would be welcomed by old friends (all protected by the same amnesty law he wrote himself). A successful

The crimes committed under Pinochet are against international law on human rights and therefore it is correct for them to be judged

IN BRIEF

woman of 51 who had died after

Initially Alzheimer's name was

dementia, but today the term

covers the full age range. OK

Miles? Don't forget!

ELIZABETH SHIPWAY

Tynemouth, Tyne and Wear

of what you say, but I will

to say it" was not said by

Sir: The saying "I disapprove

defend to the death your right

Voltaire (letter, 24 November).

It was first attributed to him

more than a century after his

given to the "pre-senile" form of

suffering from dementia.

prescribed up-to date treatment. considering letting Pinochet go back to Chile then I believe it is their responsibility to ensure that standard of nursing care was on an Pinochet is actually tried in a All is not perfect with our NHS, criminal court with independent judges in a fair and correct manner. Without such a guarantee.

but it will be a long time before I shall speak ill of it. Mrs J M BUDD Bramhall, Cheshire

previously noted, and who

of Human Rights with justice. MARIA VASQUEZ-AGUILAR

criminal prosecution is practically

Kingston upon Thames. Surrey **End this flummery**

the only decision should be

celebrate next week's 50 th

extradition. Chile has had 25 years

to bring Pinochet to justice: let us

anniversary of the UN Declaration

If the Government is seriously

Sir: Your leading article (24 November) advocating ending the tradition of the Queen's opening of Parliament set my mind to what other constitutional "flummery" could be done away with; other long-standing examples of pointless ceremonial pomp that aren't required in a modern democracy.

The coronation for example. Is there really any need for a huge grand bit of feudal pageantry when a new sovereign takes the place of their predecessor? Wouldn't it be much more in accord with the aspirations of modern forwardthinking Britain to simplify this

death in S G Tallentyre's book The Friends of Voltaire (1906), to express his attitude towards Helvetius's book De l'esprit

However, he never said or thought anything of the kind, believing neither in absolute freedom of speech nor in risking his life in such a cause. ANNA FREEMAN Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire

when it was banned in 1759.

Sir: "State may take over failing rail firms," you report on 26 November. Oh for a Mussolini to make the trains run on time! IFOR PAGE Buxton, Derbyshire

constitutional requirement as much as possible?

Perhaps if the Archbishop of Canterbury simply drove up to the palace and ... No. in a modern multi-denominational United Kingdom all constitutional reference to religion ought to be done away with. It would be better if the Lord Chancellor were to simply drive up to ... The Lord Chancellor? That office is a complete anachronism itself and ought to be abolished forthwith.

It would be best if a nice young man from the United Parcel Service were to deliver the Crown Jewels packed in bubble pad to the Palace. The King could then have himself crowned at his convenience, retire to his study. and e-mail the Coronation Oath to the nation and Commonwealth. This would surely go a long way toward modernising and streamlining the monarchy and ensuring the institution's continued popularity. TREVOR PICKERSGILL Akita Prefecture,

Bundles of dignity

Sir: Paul Vallely (Spirit of the Age, 28 November) quotes Ian Markham as saying that "If ultimately humans are nothing more than complex bundles of atoms emerging from a blind and irrational process and facing extinction when we die, then it is difficult to see how we can affirm the inherent dignity of people."

Nonsense. As I see it, it is precisely because of us having emerged from this "blind and irrational" process, which underlines our uniqueness and the rarity of the phenomenon of life itself in our vast universe, that we can grant ourselves this "inherent" dignity.

Contrarily, I see no dignity conferred upon humanity by the belief that we were created by some divinity who needed someone to worship him. MICHAEL WRIST-KNUDSEN Ely. Cambridgeshire

Tatchell the martyr

Sir: How ironical that you should be giving such massive coverage to the Oscar Wilde monument (which is long overdue), whilst using your editorial to describe Peter Tatchell's protest against Archbishop Carey as "childish and counterproductive. fixing in the public mind the image of gay rights campaigners as irresponsible extremists" (1 December).

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The Church of England, under Carey's leadership, continues to preach homophobia and cause misery to gay clergy and gay Christians. In the wider social context, such prejudice voiced by the established church underpins street attacks against lesbians and gay men and justifies discrimination in the workplace, over housing and in most areas of civil law and within the criminal justice system.

I wonder if in a hundred years time we will be raising a statue to Tatchell. He is a saint, one of freedom's warriors battling against prejudice and discrimination. CHRIS FARRAH-MILLS Hove. East Susser

Sir: So Peter Tatchell challenges the way the Ecclesiastical Courts Jurisdiction Act 1860 gives the church privileged protection against protest" ("Stars of stage and pulpit will support 'indecent' Tatchell", 30 November). The Act does no such thing: it is merely one of several Acts which can be used to punish protesters.

A few years ago a former colleague of mine received a three months prison sentence for a loud protest at a borough council meeting. He was charged under the Public Order Act. I see no evidence that that particular Act gives local councillors "privileged protection from protest". W G WINTLE Southampton. Hampshire

Sir: Since Tony Benn is defending the right of Peter Tatchell to interrupt the Archbishop during a sermon at Canterbury Cathedral, may we now assume that this defender of Parliament will uphold Mr Tatchell's right to push the Prime Minister aside at the Despatch Box in the House of Commons - unless, of course, the Serjeant at Arms stops him first. Is this what is meant by freedom of speech?

ROBERT M E PATERSON Cowbridge, Vale of Glamorgan

Sober pubs

Sir: In response to Professor David Ball's comments on "pub hours peril" (letter, 27 November), we have for long proposed more relaxed licensing hours, primarily because we believe that drinking within the socially controlled environment of the traditional pub acts as a barrier to excessive

consumption. Over-consumption of alcohol is often the result of social, cultural or even genetic problems. It is fuelled by poverty, unemployment, and low self-esteem. It is not a coincidence that the group which has been most affected by such problems is young men within the 18-26 category, precisely the group that is rightly associated with "circuit" drinking (prolonged and often troublesome pub crawls around city centres).

Individuals are not going to stop over-drinking merely because access to pubs is restricted. On the contrary, making the traditional pub a less comfortable or available outlet will focus these problem drinkers on the less easily regulated off-trade, and will result in far more social order problems, not less

DAVID HAWKINS Campaign for Real Ale St Albans, Hertfordshire

Egg and chicken

Sir: I regret to inform Ed Clarke (letter, 39 November) that it is very simple to reverse the process of turning an egg into an omelette just feed the omelette to a hen. Yes, time is reversible (in small doses. at least). FRANK BODDY Sheffield

Why an Oxford degree is not a complete waste of time

RECENTLY THEY have been serialising Alain-Fournier's classic French novel Le Grand Meaulnes on Radio 4. After what must have been a lengthy debate on how to translate the title of the novel into English, they have come to a big decision. They have decided to call it Le Grand Meaulnes. I approve of this.

I have come to believe over the years that nothing can ever be satisfactorily translated, and should always be left as is. Let me set out my

qualifications for saying so first. I spent three years at Oxford (the gap between school and real life) studying French and French literature. Looking back, I think I might have spent that time more profitably doing something else. In fact, now that I look back. I find that

I did spend most of that time more profitably doing something else, namely scribbling humour for student magazines, learning to play the double bass and getting into the

But I don't entirely regret the French bit, even though Oxford University was very careful not to sully our minds with anything too relevant, so we never found ourselves speaking any French in the entire three years I was there (this is true) or studying any writer who was still alive or had died with-

in living memory. So when I left Oxford, you might suppose that I was fully armed with the weapons to tackle French culture, and so I was, except that I could speak medieval French better than modern, and had no idea what had happened to French literature in the 20th century. This certainly gave me an incentive to continue educating myself and it may well be that the whole point of an Oxford degree is to give the holder the urge to finish the job which the dons of Oxford have barely

started. But it had also given me a wonderful education in trivial background knowledge of the type that is considered vitally necessary to pass exams, and useless for any-

thing else. I'll give you an example. While studying French theatre history in the late 19th century, a period which is even more barren of talent than the same era in Britain, I came across a writer called Henri Becque who is no longer performed but was thought



KINGTON

The whole point is to give the holder the urge to finish the job which the dons have barely started

significant because he made several innovations in staging. So I read his plays. (What a diligent lover! Very clever. The rest of the

student I must have been.) And I remember one play of his called La Parisienne which did have one fine moment. In the first scene, set in a

Parisian home, the man is confronting the wife with a letter he has found. "Someone is sending you love

letters!" he cried. "You have been deceiving me! You have a secret Just about to defend herself, she

hears the noise of the front door opening downstairs, and puts her inger to her lips. "Sssh!" she says. "Careful! It's

my husband!" Suddenly you realise that the man who is accusing the woman of infidelity is not the husband but the

play was quite good, too. and I even thought of trying to translate it once. But I never got beyond the title. How do you translate La Parisienne? As The Lady from Paris? The Parisian Lady? A Woman Of Paris? The Parisienne? Well, there's not much point in translating a play or a book if you can't get the title right.

The same is true of Ubu Roi. which is why nobody ever calls it King Ubu. The same is true of Madame Bovary, which is never retitled Mrs Bovary. Nobody would ever think of translating Cocteau's Les Enfants Terribles as The Ter-

rible Children I have even been having trouble translating something I found in my gum-boots the other day. These are a cheap (£9.99) pair of boots, made in the original.

in Italy, which I bought in an emergency and which are so unweatherproof that the makers have left a note inside saying, in their approximate English: "These boots should be worn in case of normal weather conditions - that is, against minimal hazards only." Not in mud or puddles, in other words,

But in the French version of the notes there is an instruction which recurs in none of the other lan-

-Instructions d'entretien: pas d'entretien particulier." I think that is very funny Roughly, it means: "Instructions for care. No

particular care needed." I only wish I could translate it better But I think it's like Le Grand Meaulnes and Ubu Roi. It's better

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Let's keep all this talk of harmonising in perspective

SUCH IS the reaction to proposals for further harmonisation of taxes across the European Union that it is difficult to separate fair comment from hysteria. A group of Europhobic British newspapers seem preoccupied with the "threat" to Britons' hard-earned taxes from a cast of greedy foreigners. Inevitably, this gets in the way of a real and necessary debate.

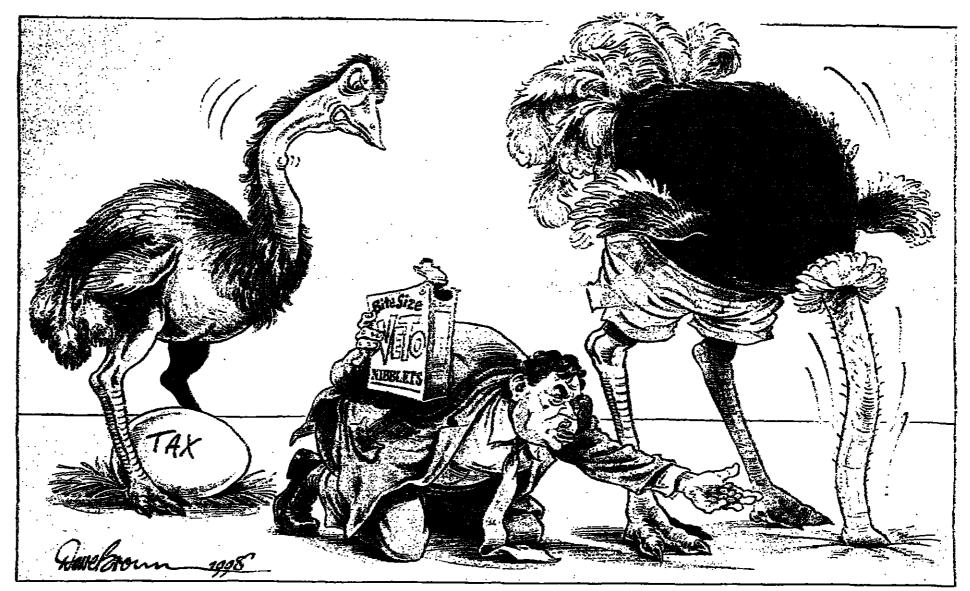
Of course, EU nations have long been harmonising economic policies. The social chapter and Europe-wide competition policies are examples. Large inward investments are handled by the European Commission; certain categories of VAT cannot be lowered below a EU "floor". A right-wing press desperate for an issue with which they can beat New Labour have latched on to an old story.

VAT exemptions for children's clothes and food, both popular issues that have been seized upon, are anomalous as rare examples of Britain's difference from the Continent. British tax rates are lower than those in other EU nations: the state takes 38 per cent of UK national incomes, compared to an EU average of 45 per cent. But what divergence does exist is clearly not under sustained threat: EU ministers are concerned with setting minimum rates of tax along the lines already established, rather than setting in stone absolute levels of tax.

The real driving force behind harmonisation is not a power-hungry European Commission, determined to take financial powers away from governments. It is the election of a new left-leaning German government that has forced the pace, worried that lower tax rates in other EU countries represent "unfair" competition. Commissioners. on the other hand, are concerned that all European tax rates are too high, and especially that EU members should manage a transition from direct to indirect taxes. a transition in which Britain has shown the way.

To some extent, further harmonisation is inevitable. Beggar-my-neighbour tax cuts designed to attract investment could threaten social security systems with bankruptcy. There is, though, no need for total uniformity. The US allows individual states a wide measure of discretion over taxation: this acts as a valuable break on irresponsible overspending on the part of state governments. If taxes go up too much, then the tax base shrinks as middle-class citizens vote with their feet, and move to lower-tax regions. States dare not waste money in that situation.

Many of the specific proposals for EU taxation should be resisted. A "withholding tax", taxing at source income moved across borders to avoid tax, would be a grave blow to London's lucrative Eurobond market. No British government should allow such an attack on our interests. But Britain still has a veto; and officials privately accept that some compromise will be reached demanding more dis-



closure, and exempting Eurobonds. No one contradicts the Chancellor, Gordon Brown, when he argues that the best institutions to mobilise in tackling tax fraud are more international, such as the OECD and G7.

Britain should not agree to one single European rate of tax. A single tax code, however orderly, may stifle European economic reform, which depends on lowering the costs of employment and manufacture. Given Britain's own regional policies, and the "enterprise zones" established in the Eighties, we recognise the impossibility of one effective rate of tax within our own borders, let alone Europe's.

But the best way to resist such proposals is to realise that the radical connotations they are supposed to carry are a chimera, summoned up by New Labour's enemies to frighten them into a Eurosceptic tone that sits ill with their positive European policy. Nations with efficient economies should not have higher taxes foisted on them to support welfare states elsewhere; but nor will that outcome be averted by hysteria.

The Tate's bizarre art of attraction

YES, THE Turner prize's entries include, and have included, everything from dung and bricks to preserved sheep. And yes, it has seemed more concerned with video performances and bits and pieces tied together than with art as the man in the street, or the visitor to the nation's galleries, would recognise it.

None the less, the fact is that the Turner Prize has added to the gaiety of the nation in one of the areas of culture where Britain is now paramount: contemporary visual arts. And this year it has shown the work of a firstclass group of artists with a winner, in the 29-year-old Chris Ofili, worthy of that reputation. The point that the missed is that the occasion is not a judgement of great-taining and involving an audience. Good for the Tate.

ness. From that point of view, to win the Turner does not equate with the grand international awards at the Venice Biennale. What the Turner Prize has succeeded in doing is to show where some of the action in modern art is taking place, and to display what at least a few artists are up to as they challenge past conventions and redefine, as every generation must do, the terms of their craft. More, Serota has managed to involve the public in these avant-garde actions. Their noses may be turned up, their eyes popped, but the numbers going to such exhibtions are impressive by any standards. And they are excited by it.

The Tate can be criticised for confining its choice to a small range of London artists. But then London is at the cutting edge, not just of Britain but the world at present, with a flowering of galleries and art schools more prestigious than New York's. Most of the work displayed will probably prove ephemeral. But that may be true of much of critics of Nicholas Serota, the director of the Tate, have contemporary art. But a public gallery is doing its job enter-

Why do Blair and Hague fall silent when the talk turns to Europe?

Britain with the most potent of invisible weapons: disinformation, propaganda, and blood-curdling warcries. The debate about Britain's place in or out of the single currency zone is becoming a screaming match between two camps, each deaf to the arguments of the other.

Only the main political figures remain silent. Mr Blair mutely avoids committing himself to a firm intention, beyond general goodwill towards economic and monetary union. From this Government's first collision with the subject, when Mr Brown had to make a Commons statement in response to contradictory leaks by his aides to The Times and Financial Times, the roles of media and politicians have been reversed. The newspapers define the pace and parameters of the debate while our elected representatives belatedly respond to their promptings

4 STONE

Mr Brown promised yesterday to veto the same tax harmonisation he had agreed to embrace in principle two weeks ago when he helped draw up The New European Way - the most integrationist document in the EU/EEC's recent history. He did so in response to the "Her Majesty's unofficial Opposition on all questions European" - The Sun - which claimed that there were plans to increase the amount of VAT on children's clothes as part of the drive towards tax har-

in the manner of Linda Evangelista, the Chancellor does not get out of bed for the ten-past-eight slot these days

A PROXY war is being fought out in should. He would have no call to set the alarm early on account of the Conservative Party.

Where is the William Hague who won the leadership against Ken Clarke largely because he was a Eurosceptic and Mr Clarke was not? Mr Hague then risked a divisive party ballot on the matter and won it. His troops on the ground were ready for the next full-frontal assault on the euro. Since then, the trenches have been earily quiet. The party which has staked its future on opposition to a single currency is making no impact on the debate whatsoever. The Sun's engaging editor, David Yelland, is turning into the best Eurosceptic

leader the Tories never had. True, Mr Hague sometimes has difficulty making himself heard above the din of people agreeing that he is irrelevant. But if he can't make himself heard on the propensity of EMU to produce a currency manipulated by shifting political interests, accelerate integration beyond the tempo at which most citizens on the continent feel happy, and launch Britain on a slide towards unaccountable policies and some murky long-term revenue-raising schemes, then he shouldn't be in

this game at all. The Sun's story raised awareness of turnult beneath the deceptively smooth surface of events. "Youch," cry the EMU-philes. "What base disinformation. Entering the single currency will not result in higher taxes and even if it does, not very much, and not for a long time." Of course, they cannot know this. Electorates are



ANNE MCELVOY

Mr Hague has difficulty making himself heard above the din of people agreeing he is irrelevant

their own and other peoples' - on tax. "We will use the veto to control any unwelcome consequences of the euro to which we, or The Sun, objects," continue the euro defenders. This would have sounded more reassuring had Chancellor Schröder not purposefully inquired last week "whether the use of national vetoes should be limited in EU decision making". Can Mr Brown tell us how he intends to resist unwelcome impositions from the EU once his veto has been vetoed?

In vain, the EMU-philes have implored Mr Blair to out himself as a passionate crusader for a single currency. But Mr Blair is neither an EMUphile nor an EMU-sceptic. He could, in different circumstances, be either. In present ones, he has chosen to go along with the project, but left himself unless The Sun demands that he right to be distrustful of politicians - a fire-escape by refusing to make a the euro imposes.

complete and unconditional commit-

Now, however, his tactical position is far more difficult than Messrs Clarke, Howe and Hattersley acknowledged when they pleaded in Monday's The Independent for the Government to commit more clearly to British entry. How definite these politicians become when they are no longer in office. I remember asking Mr Clarke when he was Chancellor which day he would name for entering the single currency, given that he was so keen on the idea. "That's a minxy little question," he replied, which hardly amounted to enlightenment.

For Mr Blair to specify an intended entry date to a single currency would mean taking on the full brunt of debate about the euro's risks before it is launched, and when its terms are looking most vulnerable. The New European Way asserts a continental, left-wing approach to economic management that is wholly at odds with his belief in the tight control of national finances and retreat from statist. high-spending solutions to the prob-lems of globalisation.

The very nature of the single currency is shifting before his eyes and a true moderniser cannot much like its mutated form. A political project was given a veneer of economic solidity in order to convince the sceptical and rich countries of northern Europe to go along with a scheme whose outstanding benefits are to Germany politically, to France economically and to the countries of the south who crave the centralised discipline

and the pressure on an SPD-led government to tackle unemployment fast has revealed the reality. Oskar Lafontaine is not alone in desiring that the central bankers back off and allow politicians to dilute the strict criteria imposed on the euro by the Maastricht Treaty. Most of the SPD and related left-of-centre continental parties feel

As much as Mr Blair enjoys companionable chats with Social Democrat leaders in the EU, he has reason to be nervous about the impact of their new dominance of the institution. He would have far fewer qualms about selling to the British public a single currency guaranteed by hatchet-faced central bankers (whom one could rail about from time to time), than one open to the baleful influence of Herr Lafontaine, who believes that governments must spend money to cure joblessness, rather than tackle the

structural causes of the malaise. Mr Blair's carefully balanced policy of approaching EMU by stealth has been blown apart. By raising the subject of tax harmonisation, his European partners have done a valuable service to the sceptical tendency. They have revealed a truth, one kept fastidiously veiled down the years. Economic and monetary union always was a political project. It will demand ever greater integration of national expenditure and revenue between the participating countries to keep the show on the road in difficult times. If you don't like the sound of this, don't vote for it - whenever they get round to asking you.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Condoms should be as easily available as Coca Cola." International Development Secretary

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"Judges, like the criminal classes have their lighter moments." Oscar Wilde, playuright and poet



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infection in sub-Saharan Africa, ment to eradicating HTV. Today, this threatens to become a that final victory seems more national disaster. Our re- distant and elusive than ever; sources are limited and there but someday, if we persevere, have been differences over we can achieve it. Rememstrategy. But on one strategy brance, gratitude, and comwe should be united: our most mitment can provide the potent weapon is to spread awareness of how it is trans-

mitted. That weapon should be

Cape Argus, South Africa

wielded fearlessly and relent-

lessly by all in the years ahead.

FOR SOUTH Africa, which now WORLD AIDS Day is an opporhas the fastest rate of Aids tunity to renew our commitenergy and determination this effort will require, until the day when the bells ring and the prayers rise to celebrate the end of the epidemic. The Charlotte Observer, US

MONITOR

ALL THE NEWS OF THE WORLD International opinion on the occasion of World Aids Day

IN AFRICA alone, over 21 mil-that foreign debt repayments lion people live with HIV. It be steered to prevention if the orphans children, cripples poorest countries are to safepublic health systems and disrupts economies. The UN's a plague by any measure.

guard their populations. Aids is top Aids official has suggested San Francisco Chronicle, US

every six seconds. In Asia, millions are infected. The disease has begun to undermine the economies in Africa and Asia. being crippled and natural resources overwhelmed. With little of the financial and human capital of developed nations, the Third World faces an insuperable task. So it's fitting that today the world unites in a quest for survival.

Miami Herald, US

the epidemic. Means exist but people refuse point-blank to put them to effect: wealthy Amer-Besides loss of life, business is ica is certainly not short on syringes but Congress has banned the distribution of them among junkies. One day isn't too much to stop and reflect and think of those who suffer and who will suffer. That day is today.

provide the means to stamp out

Tribune de Geneve, Switzerland

A NEW HIV infection occurs THE WORLD is reluctant to

T)

PANDORA

NEXT YEAR'S Eurovision Song Contest has produced a spin off, Channel 5's A Thong for Europe. This competition between European male strippers is well under way, with qualifying heats due to start soon. Strippers from France and Spain, two of the eight nations competing, have complained that there are not enough strip joints in their countries and have had to come over to Britain to practise. According to a Channel 5 source, Britain now has the most strip joints in Europe and can easily offer the practice needed to become King Thong, the ultimate winner of the competition. Nevertheless the BBC, which will screen the Eurovision Song Contest, held in Israel next May, won't have to worry about a clash. "We won't be showing it at the same time as the Eurovision, because our target audiences are similar and they probably won't sacrifice their usual viewing." a Channel 5 spokesman admitted.

IT SEEMS that Tony Blair has found himself on the "wong" side of the New Age obsession which reigns at Downing Street. An organisation called Yellow Dragon has written to MPs to warn them that "unless Tony Blair contacts Yellow Dragon's Master Wong immediately for help", he wili lose a leadership challenge from Gordon Brown. Master Wong's Yellow Dragon are fervent believers in feng shui, the I Ching and astrology, favourites of the New Age crowd. So no doubt the crystal-wearing Cherie Blair and her husband will be taking note. As an emissary of Wong's warns, "Remember Tony Blair's massive landslide victory was due to a prolonged spiritual blessing from Master Wong."

LIFE WOULD be a lot duller without Keith Richards. Dubbed as the man who "has tried so you don't have to", in the January issue of O magazine, Richards gets down to earth responding to readers' questions. One reader asks Richards whether Mick Jagger takes himself too seriously. Of his fellow Rolling Stone and lad of the moment, Richards says: "I think he takes everything too seriously. My aim is to introduce more levity into his life. I think Mick maybe has a hard time having nothing to do. Every minute has to be filled." That

explains a lot. THE ACTRESS Susan Sarandon (pictured) has been behaving rather oddly lately. Sarandon has been spotted walking up to complete strangers in New York City and eating their lunch, enjoying a lap dance in a strip club and asking a bookshop assistant to look up all the books that she is in. Fans of the Thelma and Louise star should not despair; the dares were part of Sarandon's guest editor slot in January's Marie Claire and were set up to raise money for charity. Pandora salutes Susan as a good sport and wonders whether the celebrity dare idea could catch on over here. Why not dare Arsène Wenger to try his hand at stand-up comedy, get Jeremy Beadle to end his career? The possibilities are boundless.

SPEAKING OF dares, Pandora has still not heard from the Sports Minister, Tony Banks, on how much he has enjoyed the recent publication of The Wit and Wisdom of Tony Banks. As Pandora vowed yesterday, examples of the MP's wit will be aired until such time as we hear from him. Today's gem comes from a 1994 Commons debate on the cash-for-questions scandal: "Since I was elected I have tabled 6,919 questions. If I had received £1,000 for each of these I'd have netted a cool £7m, which would have meant that I could have faxed this speech from Mustigue.'

> BRIAN BEHAN, brother of the better known, late, Irish playwright Brendan, is having a spot of bother with his play, The Tole of Two Todgers. Todgers tells

the story of a

man born

with a dual

appendage, benefit for it, as well as for his cat and his of the play, to be shown at the Hammersmith Irish Centre on 16 December, Swiney, a miserly DSS official, kills the cat and the dog so Sausage, can't

the hero, Padser claim for them. "I've got animal rights protesters threatening to picket the play," Behan complained to Pandora. "I wouldn't mind, but the cat and dog are stuffed. It's not as if I killed them."

But what is not acceptable is that the money donated by Labour Party members and by the trade unions should be wasted on circulating such a dossier about my

The dangerous bigotry of the BBC

THE BBC lady seemed to be in touch with HQ, as I shuddered in the cold, hauled out of the Evenina Standard awards luncheon to do an interview on the pavement.

"No," I heard her say, "Stephen Fry can't be located. But we do have a substitute."

Ah. That's what I was. Not there to discuss the awards, as I'd thought. This was back to Oscar Wilde. Which is where the trouble

Earlier that day I'd been at the unveiling of a memorial to that selfdestructive man, over 100 years after Oscar Wilde's trial opened at the Old Bailey - on 3 April 1895. It had been a quiet ceremony.

Maggi Hambling, the sculptor, had concocted a slightly grotesque creation. The head of Wilde, hairy, effete and thick-lipped, seemed to be waving a bejewelled hand from the depths of his marble sarcophagus. Perhaps Wilde on a plinth would have been more appropriate, as that was how he saw himself.

Then I had to dash. Down the Strand to the Savoy Hotel, where I was attending the Evening Standard awards luncheon.

NIGEL HAWTHORNE

I was not allowed to infer that Mandelson's situation is not a million miles from Oscar Wilde's

Whether one likes award ceremonies or not is beyond the point. They are part of our lives now, and, in the theatre world at least, they help draw attention to one of the country's greatest and most profitable industries.

However, half-way through my meion (when you tell the Savoy that you're a vegetarian, they take it seriously), a spokesman for the event whispered apologetically in my ear that he would be very grateful if I were to agree to doing an interview

"What? Now?" "Now."

With respect, I abandoned my conversation and followed the spokesman into the foyer - and then out on to the street.

There was a camera. It was on the far pavement. A BBC lady asked me to step over to be wired for sound. A technician puzzlingly enquired whether I had hearing problems before inserting a minute plastic object in my left ear. Through the noise of the traffic, I could just about hear what seemed to be the news. I guessed I was on when that was finished.

The Peter Mandleson story featured in considerable detail - the bars he is reputed to have visited in Brazil and so on - and then on to other matters. It was cold out there, and still the newscaster chuntered on, and still I waited patiently to be interviewed. At the very moment that I was struggling to adjust to my role as a Stephen Fry stand-in, who should arrive, but Stephen himself.

"Oh my God," he said. "You do it." I said "No, you," he replied "Please - no!" I said, trying to unfasten the microphone from my belt. Then the technician decided. "We're almost on the air. It's too late. You're on, Mr Hawthorne." And I was. Through the roar of London's traffic a voice seemed to be asking: "What relevance do you think a statue of

Oscar Wilde has today?" "Well," I answered, "Tve just been listening to the news story about Peter Mandelson, and I

"I'm sorry", the interviewer cut in. "We don't want you to talk about

The programme, you should know, was going out live. I was flabbergasted. "If it's not to do with personalities then what is it about?" But

I was cut off. Right, Fine. The BBC, in its allpowerful position, seems to think it can operate as it pleases. Double standards to the fore. We're perfectly happy to discuss the details of Mr Mandelson's alleged sexual activities in the news because that is fact. but we do not want to hear any discussions about it, or opinions.

The fact remains that what Peter Mandelson does is not my or anybody else's business. I do not know the man. I have never met him.

But what, more importantly, I was not allowed by the BBC to infer, was that Mandelson's situation is not a million miles from Oscar Wilde's. Have we learnt nothing in the past

100 years? To hold someone up to ridicule because of his or her sexual proclivity is cheap, hypocritical and retrogressive. Would we dare do the same were they Jewish black or a member of any other minority group? And to censor somebody because he has dared to draw attention to the parallel between the past and present and hint at the inherent dangers seems to me to be dangerously close to bigotry.

I made my way back to the award ceremony, seething with rage about injustice, bigotry and hypocrisy. I don't suppose many people noticed. But, dear old Anntie, if you set yourself up to have such high moral standards, as you have done all these years, then you ought to be bloody well ashamed

The strange fantasy world of my paranoid party leaders

I SOMETIMES think that somebody in the Milibank Tendency must love me. Every time that my profile starts to flag, somebody in Millbank Tower finds a way to put me back in

Last Sunday's papers reported that the Labour Party machine had drawn up a dossier analysing all my speeches and articles since the election, provoking several follow-up stories and a Today interview about control freakery. Even before this story had died down, the papers were filled with the news that the Government had decided to delay passing control of the London Underground to the mayor, when he is elected. The fact that this could completely disembowel the transport policies of any mayor seems not to have occurred to the intellectual giants making these decisions.

I have no objection to the Millbank Tendency circulating an analysis of voted with the Government for about 98 per cent of the time. According to the media leaks, the dossier records full details of my criticisms of Gordon Brown's economic strategy. In that case, this dossier will reveal that, even before the general election. I predicted that the world economy would be likely to head towards a recession at the turn of the century and that the British economy was likely to go through a mild recession in the mid-term of this Government. I suspect that by the time we get around to deciding Labour's candidate for mayor, my forecast of the economy's growth rate is going to look a lot more realistic than Gordon's over-optimistic predictions in his pre-budget statement.



KEN LIVINGSTONE

Every time my profile starts to flag, someone in Millbank finds a way to put me back in the news

prescient economic analysis at a time when Labour has just been pushed into third place in a Scottish Euro by-election.

dismissed as a little bit of internal Labour Party factionalism, the proposals to withhold control of the Tube from the newly elected mayor would be a real attack on the interests of Londoners, who are desperate to see somebody tackle the capital's transport chaos. Control of the Tube will be with-

held from the mayor apparently

because the Government fears that the London elections would raise the question of whether privatisation of the Tube was in the best interests of an integrated transport policy. A senior source was quoted in the Evening Standard on Monday as saying: "The key thing is not to let this issue become a political football as we move closer to the mayoral elections." The paradox, of course, is that, in removing it from the debate, the future of the Underground stays in limbo, when Londoners will be expecting the mayor and assembly to make a rapid start on improving transport in London.

The Government's plans for the Tube are already struggling, with many of the firms who have expressed an interest beginning to get cold feet. The time to change this policy is during the debates in Parliament. Once it has become law, whoever is mayor will be stuck trying to do what he or she can to make the system work for Londoners (including those who work on it). That reality would apply to me just as much as any other mayoral candidate, contrary to the implication of some of the press stories this week. It would be politically suicidal for any mayor to throw the entire Tube system into chaos just to embarrass John Prescott. I just wish that, just for once, someone from Millbank would pick up the phone and discuss these issues with me.

Sunday papers reported that Millbank has commissioned a detailed dossier on my five-year "reign of terror" at the GLC. God knows what this is going to cost, but they could save their money. On the question of transport they would discover that by cutting London Transport fares by 35 per cent we got so many more people using public transport that we made a £48 million surplus in 1983, which allowed us to cut the domestic and commercial rates the following year. Overall, even with the reduced fares, the total income from fares went up by 11 per cent and the 70 per cent extra passenger miles meant a 5 per cent reduction in car usage in London with consequent reduced pollution and accidents.

While everybody now agrees we were right on public transport, other issues were more controversial. The Millbank Tendency has devel-



John Prescott on the Tube

oped the interesting line that it was face the worry of the Jubilee Line ex-"GLC excesses" over lesbian and gay rights that prompted the Thatcher government to bring in ling this issue. The GLC funded a the Tube system to a halt in order study which showed that amongst young lesbians and gays, half had experienced problems at school, many had been beaten up because of their sexuality, some had been evicted from their homes and some had tried to commit suicide. To have ignored this problem would

have been political cowardice. It is because organisations such as the GLC campaigned with lesbians and gay men to eradicate this prejudice that we have now been able to make so many advances, including the support enjoyed by "out" gay and lesbian politicians.

I hope Milibank's dossier will deal honestly with these issues. I sincerely hope they mention the report in which we asked Mrs Thatcher's government to allow us to build an

tension being finished in time for the opening of the Millennium Dome.

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The fact that anyone in the Labour Party Uninks I Would Dring to make a political point merely reflects the strange fantasy world these people inhabit. Londoners would turn on anybody who played fast and loose with their quality of life. During the final year of the GLC it would have been possible for the Labour administration to follow a scorched earth policy in which we maximised the damage caused by the transition to the new arrangements for running London's services but I don't recall anybody ever making such a suggestion. Instead everyone in the Labour group, from myself on down, sweated blood to make certain we preserved the services we provided to Londoners and the jobs of GLC staff concerned.

If only the Millbank Tendency would work as hard attacking the extension of the Jubilee Line out to Tories - instead of wasting their time Docklands. It's a pity she blocked it and Labour Party members' money - the Government would not now studying my collected works.

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Bringing the church into disrepute

and I am a member of Parliament, first elected in 1950, and have been a Privy Councillor since 1964. I have known Peter Tatchell since 1981 and have the greatest respect for him as a man of principle, who is consistent in his convictions, non-violent acter in his methods and wholly committed to the rights of homosexuals to equal treatment before the law as a mat-

ter of human rights. This view is not universally shared but it is, at last, becoming accepted by the House of Commons in the drafting of legislation.

It is not necessary for anyone to agree with Mr Tatchell's opinions on this matter, or even to approve of his methods of campaigning, for his own complete integrity to be recognised. His intervention on Easter Sunday, when he entered the pulpit and briefly interrupted the sermon to be preached by the Archbishop of Canterbury because he opposes the views of the Archbishop on this issue, may have disturbed some members of the congregation, may be crit-

icised by others who do not

MY NAME is Tony Benn share his view, but cannot be held to have constituted behaviour" under the law.

Nor can it be denied that what he did was solely motivated by his long-held personal convictions and was entirely non-violent in char-I hope that in considering

this case the court will take account of the long history of dissent that has taken place in this country, and world-wide, over the centuries, and which is now accepted as having, on many occasions, played a significant and beneficial role in shaping public opinion, the law of the land and the thinking of the Church itself.

When Jesus himself entered the Temple in Jerusalem and turned out the "changers" money and overthrew their tables" (St John, Chapter 2, Verses 14-15), this non-violent direct action could well have been an offence under the of history. then law, but is now accepted by the Church as a historic and symbolic act.

It has long been accepted that conscience is above the law, and that men and women who follow their own deeply



TONY BENN

The evidence given by the Labour MP during

the trial of Peter Tatchell at Canterbury Magistrates' Court

held beliefs and peacefully defy unjust laws are right to do so, and though they may be punished at the time for what they have done, their views are often upheld by the judgement

For example, Christians who defied the Heresy Act of 1401, which made it an offence - punishable by being hanged, drawn and quartered - for the laity to read the Bible, are what they did, and the law was later repealed. Similarly, the Suffragettes regularly broke the law to argue for the right of women to vote, were imprisoned for their protest and are now seen to have been martyrs in a just cause. Women now have the vote.

Conscientious objectors against war - such as the

women at Greenham Common, who were imprisoned in 1982 for action "likely to lead to a breach of the peace", and many others - have done what they believed to be right, have paid the price for it and are now accepted as having been unjustly treated

Mahatma Gandhi and Nelson Mandela, both of whom were imprisoned for committing offences that no longer exist, are now honoured for their principled stand.

More recently, three Anglican Bishops, a Roman Catholic Bishop and five others including the Baptist Superintendent and the Moderator of the United Reformed Church, attacked the Poll Tax in 1990 and issued a statement which included the phrase: "Everyone has the now seen to have been right in right to protest peacefully

about a perceived injustice" (April 10 1990). The evolution of democracy and the slow advance of human rights can. very often, be attributed to those very people and to the courage they showed.

Given this background, it would, I respectfully submit, be quite wrong for Peter Tatchell to be convicted under laws that were drawn up in past centuries for quite different reasons, namely the the Ecclesiastical Courts Jurisdiction Act of 1860, formerly embodied in the Brawling Act of 1551.

In addition, I must add that were Mr Tatchell to be convicted and punished, it could bring both the courts and the Church itself into disrepute and would serve to remind the public that only the churches enjoy protection of this kind under the law, a protection that is not even enjoyed by Parliament or other public

gatherings. For these reasons, I hope this court will find itself able to dismiss the charges brought against Mr Tatchell. I would be glad to answer any questions the court might like.

احكذا من الاحل

^{BC}The cold reality of separation



TIMOTHY GARTON ASH

Small nation states with clear ethnic majorities might be the least bad solution for the Balkans

🔩 THE FRESH red blood on the fresh white snow in the village of Prilep looks unreal, like a new exhibit at the Tate. But it is entirely real. This is the blood of two dead Serb policemen, shot at dawn, almost certainly by the soldiers of a tough local commander of the Kosovo Liberation Army, violating the ceasefire. The blood lies, symbolically, just beneath a ruined mosque in the middle of an Albanian village which those Serb forces have systematically destroyed. Now the women of one of the few Albanian families to remain here are telling us how the Serb police beat them up after the killing. Welcome to Kosovo, Europe, at the end of the 20th century.

The province is in fact divided. Blue-uniformed Serb police, heavily armed, in blue armoured vehicles and a few sinister u<u>mmark</u>ed white ones, patrol the roads and the main towns. Soldiers of the Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA), in army surplus gear of varying hues of orange and khaki, control much of the remaining countryside, driving in battered Ladas down muddy lanes – their own little Ho Chi Minh trails. You meet them as soon as you urn off into the hills. In places, the two forces are just 50 yards apart.

This is not peace. It is frozen war. The war is frozen, quite literally. by the heavy snows that came down a fortnight ago, signalling the start of the winter intermission now traditional in this decade's Balkan wars. It is also frozen metaphorically by the so-called "international community". Between the Serb boys in blue and the Albanian boys in orange, there cruise burly Americans, tight-lipped Britons (usually "with a service background") and

arnest Scandinavians, driving white or bright orange armoured am told some Land Rovers previously deployed in Northern Ireland.

Now formally under the auspices of the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), their brief is to "verify" compliance with the ceasefire and other security provisions negotiated by the Americans with the Serb leader Slobodan Milosevic. But vnless a political deal is agreed in the next three months, all the planned 2,000 unarmed OSCE



حكدًا من الاجل

Prekaz, in Kosovo, where 60 Albanians were killed by Serbian troops: separating the ethnic groups could eventually make them better neighbours

"verifiers" will not stop the bloodshed starting again when the snows have melted.

That political deal is being negotiated in countless rounds of exhausting shuttle diplomacy by America's ambassador to Macedonia, Christopher Hill. His latest draft plan would restore the farreaching autonomy of which Kosovo was robbed by Milosevic in 1989. It would devolve much power to local communes, thus allowing purely Albanian areas to have Albanian authorities and police, while mixed areas would supposedly have mixed ones. The Hill plan foresees direct international supervision, especially for the reconstruction of the police and new elections. In effect, the OSCE mission under the American William Walker would run whole arrangement should be

reviewed in three years' time. Of course, this would be the world's largest piece of fudge, excepting only the Dayton agreement on Bosnia. At the moment, it's still unacceptable to both sides. The Albanians, 90 per cent of the population of Kosovo, want guarantees that in three years' time a door will be open to eventual independence. Not just the Milosevic regime, but also many moderate Serbs I talked to in Belgrade, want a province which they regard as a historic cradle of their nation, to remain at least notionally part of Serbia. It is far from certain that Hill can make the poles meet. Not even by deploying the political Cruise missile called Richard Holbrooke. Not even with a renewed threat of

Nato air strikes. If he does not succeed, there will again be low-level war. If he does. while General Winter holds the combatants apart, then Kosovo will rapidly become a quasi-protectorate, like Bosnia. For in these troubled provinces of the Balkans, a strange new version of the Austro-Hungarian empire is being re-created, with Americans taking the part of the dominant Austrians and us Western Europeans as the second-

Except that this is not direct colonial rule as it was under the Habsburgs, and the quasi-protectorate covers a reality of far-reaching ethnic partition. For the Bosnian model is a wonder of the world in international relations: half-protectorate, half-partition. And with no obvious exit, save the faint hope that one day Milosevic will be removed by his own people (with a little help from their Western friends) and a more democratic government in

Belgrade will countenance more lasting solutions.

But what would those be? The truth is that we in the West are now on the horns of an insoluble dilemma. It is a hard, sad conclusion of the last decade that probably the least bad, most durable framework in which the peoples of the former Yugoslavia might start their slow journey to a civilised, liberal, democratic Europe is as a group of small nation states with clear ethnic majorities. This statement can easily be misconstrued. I am not arguing that separating out into nation states was the inevitable consequence of "ancient tribal hatreds". Buried hatreds there surely were, but to revive, exacerbate and exploit them was the culpable responsibility of bad leaders: osevic, above all, but also Franjo Tudjman of Croatia. But now, after all that has happened, a period of separation would be the least bad solution. Good fences might eventually make good neighbours.

Nor is this peculiar to the Balkans. We in Western Europe have long since separated out into nation states, with a few exceptions. and even those exceptions - such as Belgium, or Scotland in Britain - are now proving difficult to sustain. (Yes, I know there'll always be Switzerland, God bless her.) It's precisely on this basis of clear separation into nation states that we are getting together - in so far as we are in the European Union. In Central Europe, the process happened more recently. It happened through war, the redrawing of frontiers and ethnic cleansing in Germany, Poland and the Czech lands; then through the "velvet divorce" between Czechs and Slovaks. The former Yugoslav republic of Slovenia had the good fortune to have a clear ethnic majority already. In each case, the relative ethnic homogeneity has, in the medium term, helped the country's return to the civilised, democratic com-

Yet this is not achievable in the case of Bosnia, or even of Kosovo. thout methods that are simply unacceptable to the modern liberal conscience. In Bosnia, final partition would surely result in further bloodshed and hundreds of thousands more people fleeing their homes, as well as the creation of a resentful rump, Muslim state. Even in Kosovo. to say "independence now" would almost certainly mean at least another 100,000 Serbs being uprooted. Actually, we did accept that in 1995, when we let Tudjman "cleanse" the Krajina of more than

munity of states.

150,000 Serbs. And, yes, as a result. the now more homogeneous Croatia may have a better chance of returning sooner to more civilised, democratic ways. But once we are present on the ground, in our bright orange vehicles, in a quasi-protectorate, we cannot countenance this: we cannot be party to ethnic cleansing. In short, we may, intellectually, will the end, but morally and politically we cannot will the means. This is the dilemma upon the horns of which we are garroted. Winter is freezing the war, but we will be trying to freeze history.

Perhaps there is a way out of this dilemma, but it is a long and complicated one. The least bad rationale that I have heard for our neo-Habsburg quasi-protectorates is a piece of almost Hegelian dialectics. We are there to create conditions in which if people do still want to separate. they will at least do so peacefully. We keep them together, the better for them to part. Failure would be our ultimate success! But will our voters and taxpavers, especially American taxpavers, really let us spend another 10 years and billions of pounds doing such a strange. complicated, even quixotic thing? Or will history again move forward, as it usually has, through more blood

RIGHT OF REPLY

NORMAN BAKER



The Liberal Democrat MP for Lewes replies to David Aaronovitch's call for a closer Lib-Lab relationship

SURE. THERE is much common ground between Lib Dems and Labour. But there are also many differences. We are friends, but not family. Friends can get along fine, but different blood flows through these two parties' veins.

There is a fundamental philosophical difference. Tony Blair may have shed his socialist clothes, but he retains a top-down, centralist approach, anathema to Liberal Democrats. He wants to use the state more than we do to regulate people's lives, whether it's Jack Straw's curfews, or beef-on-the-bone bans.

Sometimes there seems to be a willingness to relinquish power - the creation of a Scottish Parliament, a Welsh Assembly, and an authority for London. But Tony Blair wants to control from afar these "devolved" bodies. He wants to be loved for being open and liberal, but wants to retain power by other means.

Then there is the Freedom of Information Bill. It was drafted, it was ready to go, but instead it was its architect, David Clark, who went. The Bill has now been given to the minister allegedly most sceptical about it, Jack Straw.

Our second fundamental disagreement is on the environment. There is no recognition that environmental policy should permeate all Government policy. The Treasury continues to regard green issues with haughty disdain or as easy ways to raise revenue. The Queen's ech only mention vironment once. There is no legislation on it. Even the Bill on the strategic rail authority has been shunted away.

These are fundamental differences for us. It is right to oppose a Queen's Speech which does not address these issues from a Liberal perspective. That will not stop us co-operating where we can. But as friends, not family.

Spirit of Plato alive in Silicon Valley

IMAGINE FLORENCE in the Renaissance. Brunelleschi's dome dominates the skyline; Michelangelo's David stands majestically in the Palazzo Vecchio; commercial banking thrives as feudalism declines; the ancient city-state is reinvented for the modern era. By any standard, quattrocento Florence was a city of awesome achievement. The question is how. What forces converged to make Florence, in this golden age, one

of the great cities in world history? Peter Hali's superb account of over a dozen such great cities tells a story of bewilderingly impressive accomplishments. But Cities in Civilisation does not seek simply to rehearse the individual histories of cities; rather,



WEDNESDAY POEM

JEWELS IN MY HAND

BY SASHA MOORSOM

I hold dead friends like jewels in my hand

Watching their brilliance gleam against my palm

Turquoise and emerald, jade, a golden band.

All ravages of time they can withstand

Like talismans their grace keeps me from harm

I hold dead friends like jewels in my hand.

I see them standing in some borderland

Their heads half-turned, waiting to take my arm

Turquoise and emerald, jade, a golden band.

I'm not afraid they will misunderstand

My turning to them like a magic charm

I hold dead friends like jewels in my hand

Turquoise and emerald, jade, a golden band.

This poem comes from 'Your Head in Mine', a joint selection of

poems by the late Sasha Moorsom and her husband, Michael Young

(Carcanet, £8.95)

Wednesday Book

CITIES IN CIVILISATION: CULTURE, INNOVATION AND URBAN ORDER BY PETER HALL, WEIDENFELD & NICOLSON. £30

theory to understand the complexity of how great cities come to be. As his thousand-plus pages suggest, this is no mean feat, so it is to his immense credit that he almost convinces us.

This study is divided into four sections, comprised of case studies of cities ranging from ancient Athens to California's Silicon Valley. Most of the book is taken up with exploring the Hall attempts to provide an eclectic extraordinary innovations in culture

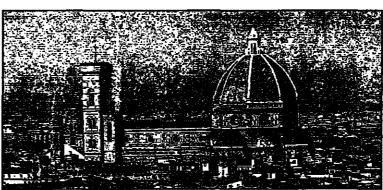
and technology that mark great cities, and suggesting ways in which their histories overlap. With such an approach, Vienna's musical revolution and Manchester's industrial revolution, both in the late 18th century, share something - a willingness to embrace the new, signalling shifts in the dominant paradigms of knowledge and practice. That creative spark and the impulse toward innovation, combined with geographical luck and economic prosperity, are ultimately what leads

Hall is most impressive in the first section, which deals with artistic creativity. His chapters move effortlessly between an overview of "the world's first entertainment business", the Elizabethan stage, and the importance of cinema in Weimar Berlin. He is as comfortable discussing Pericles in Athens as Picasso in Paris. Such rich erudition, concisely and elegantly expressed, assures our attention.

some cities to a glorious golden age.

Hall's many insights help us unravel the complexity of cities. As a guide that synthesises a tremendous range of writing about the city (in political philosophy, economic theory, urban planning, architecture and history), this book has no equal.

The importance of transitional moments in the history of great cities stands out. "Creative cities... are places of great social and intellectual turbulence, not comfortable places at holm's Social Democratic vision of in their creative abilities. "Cities were all," Hall writes. He is not an urban utopian and admits that such cities are difficult places. But for him, the disjunctures that occur, the exclusionary practices that often separate individ-



Brunelleschi's dome, a symbol of the creativity of Florence Brian Harris

uals rather than unite them, is what allow a city to become great.

As he suggests of the dominance of ancient Athens - a city that relied on exploited labour, an aristocratic elite and a resident alien population - the sort of creativity that produced Plato's philosophy, Aeschylus's drama or Phidias's Parthenon frieze was not a stable condition

On the contrary, "it was the tension between the old order, the order of the gods and of the world they ordained, and the new, the order when people were masters of their own destiny, that brought the creativity". Despite the impulse towards

instability and tension in the great cities of the West, there is also an impulse towards order. Dirty streets must be cleaned; street crime must be policed; traffic must move. In the final section, Hall maps out creativity in infrastructures to show different solutions to the problem of urban order Ancient Rome's great public works, Victorian London's railways. Los Angeles' stacked highways, Stocksatellite cities, each represents a negotiation between public and private interests in an attempt to order the city prevent decline, and make city life as comfortable and equal as possible.

Ultimately, Hall does not provide a single overarching concept for great cities. He moves fluently between the literatures on each, but to understand ancient cities and Silicon Valley under any umbrella theory seems unlikely. Notably, almost none of his case studies (except Tokyo) relates to non-Western cities. Are we meant to understand Bollywood in the same way as Hollywood? Can Chinese cities be accommodated within Hall's ideas about creative tension and innovation in the same way as American cities? Hall does not quite manage to suggest a theory which can hold all the cities of the world together throughout history, but his ambition and intelli-

gence are laudable. What is most exhilarating about Cities in Civilisation is its belief in the future of cities, its "anti-[Lewis] Muraford thesis". Hall argues that cities are not in perpetual decline towards the point of extinction. Despite the problems which have always faced cities, and will continue to face them tomorrow, he enthusiastically believes and are," he writes in the final paragraph, "places for people who can stand the heat of the kitchen." For Hall, the kitchen is the only place to be.

We'd like to bring some horror stories to your attention.

This Sunday read our special report in The Independent on Sunday Human Rights 50 years on



Brigadier Michael Calvert

MICHAEL CALVERT, who survived both the Chindit expeditions into Burma, was one of the outstanding leaders of irregular troops during the Second World War, though born into the old officer class and himself a regular army officer

He was the youngest son of a senior member of the Indian Civil Service, who rose to be acting governor of the Punjab; his mother was Irish. He was himself born in the Raj. near Delhi; went to school at Bradfield; and followed his brothers to "The Shop", the Royal Military Academy at Woolwich. Though he cared little for smartness he passed out seventh and was commissioned a second lieutenant Royal Engineers in 1933. He then spent a year at Cambridge reading Mechanical Sciences at St John's and securing a swimming Blue. He was also a boxer, later the Army's middieweight champion.

His first Army posting was to Hong Kong where he raised a force of coolies. He was then moved on to Shanghai in time to witness its conquest by the Japanese in 1937; an early lesson in the horrors of war. He reported in detail on the infantry landing craft, with hinged front panels, which he saw the Japanese using; his report lay forgotten in a pigeon-hole in the War Office.

The outbreak of war saw him adjutant of a London RE battalion, work so dull that he volunteered for the Fifth Battalion, the Scots Guards though well under the proper height for a guardsman). This battalion consisted of men preparing to fight beside the Finns against the Soviet Union during the winter war of 1939 to 1940. They spent weeks at Chamonix learning to ski, and were then disbanded as the Finns had given in.

Calvert missed the fighting in France next summer but was an early member of the Commando training school at Lochailort in the Highlands, which he left to assist Peter Fleming in preparing the stay-behind parties in Kent who were to try to upset the communications and petrol supplies of the German army that, thank good-

He was then sent out to Australia to help set up a school similar to Lochailort there. From one of his fellow instructors, Freddie Spencer-Chapman (later author of that marvellous book. The Jungle is Neutral, 1949), he learned a lot about jungle warfare; and he helped to train Australian special forces. He was moved on to set up a bush warfare school at Maymyo in Burma, east of Mandalay - in fact a school to train guerrillas to fight in China.

There he was surprised by the Japanese invasion in the winter of 1941/42. Off his own bat he dressed his staff and pupils in Australian bush hats and mounted a raid by river craft behind the Japanese lines, intended to lead them to think that the Australian army was already present in Burma in force. He got no thanks in the short run – indeed he was reprimanded for damaging the property of the Burmah Oil Company without permission. He dis-

covered in the long run that he had

indeed done a little to hold up the

Japanese advance. His casualties

were light and he had managed

Wingate, that formidable pillar of un-

conventionality; who had read a

paper Calvert had scribbled in 1940.

be kept supplied by air, far behind

any existing fighting line, and was

looking forward to implementing

that then quite novel idea in the field.

Calvert was one of the few regular

officers whom Wingate was pre-

pared to treat as an equal. That their

ranks at the time were major and

brigadier made no difference at all:

the two of them got on splendidly.

Before he could rejoin Wingate,

bout the way raiding parties could

Moreover he next met Orde

some important demolitions.

Calvert had a couple of months force: Calvert though emaciated hard fighting in the rearguard of the army retreating from Burma, with such wild men as he could find to undertake tasks that were at first glance hopeless. In his autobiography, Fighting Mad (1964), this is the point at which he lays down a principle. "I have always maintained that the men in a fighting unit must be led from in front by a commander they know is willing and able to do everything he asks them to do and probably more."

Nelson would have approved; this is the way real leaders lead. Once Calvert paused to bathe in a river, and met a Japanese officer who was doing exactly the same. He won a quarter of an hour's wrestling match, drowned his opponent, and had his patrol kill the whole Japanese patrol whom they surprised in the next bend of the river.

He then got back to India, with infinite difficulty through the monsoon, equipped nor trained.

Calvert paused to bathe in a river, and met a Japanese officer

doing the same. He won a quarter of an hour's wrestling match.

drowned his opponent, and had his patrol kill the Japanese

patrol whom they surprised in the next bend of the river

and was at once summoned by

Wingate to help train his first Chin-

dit expedition. "God often gives men

peculiar instruments with which to

pursue His will," Wingate remarked; "David was armed only with a sling."

77th Brigade which Wingate com-

manded; in it Calvert commanded a

column of some 400 men when it

went into Burma six months later.

This first attempt at Long Range

Penetration - its official name - had

little strategic impact but was a

colossal propaganda success: home

morale in Great Britain was much

boosted by the idea that our men

were attacking the Japanese in the

jungle and the name of Chindit

became famous. Casualties were

heavy, at about 30 per cent of the Belgian Croix de Guerre.

In August 1942 Calvert joined

after a march of over a thousand miles through jungle, survived.

He was indeed promoted brigadier - thus winning a bet he had made with a schoolfriend when he was 12 - and took 77th Brigade into Burma again by air on 5 March 1944. He established a stronghold and landing ground codenamed Broadway well behind the Japanese lines, and another called White City a little farther south, and held both of them against sustained Japanese attacks. This operation was of far more use than the previous one - it Imphal, that threatened India; but the fire went out of it when Wingate was killed in an air crash, and Calvert found himself under the orders of the American General Stilwell - passionately anti-British and forced to fight a conventional war for which his men were neither

goslavia. In 1950 he was posted to command a new SAS unit called the Malayan Scouts in a colony already troubled by Communist subversion. Many men posted to him from elsewhere in the Army were discards from their former units and with this material even he could do nothing useful. He fell ill; returned to England; and was posted - in his substantive rank, still major - to a corner of the control commission He did not get on with his fellow officers and took to drinking by himself in a bar in Soltau (though he

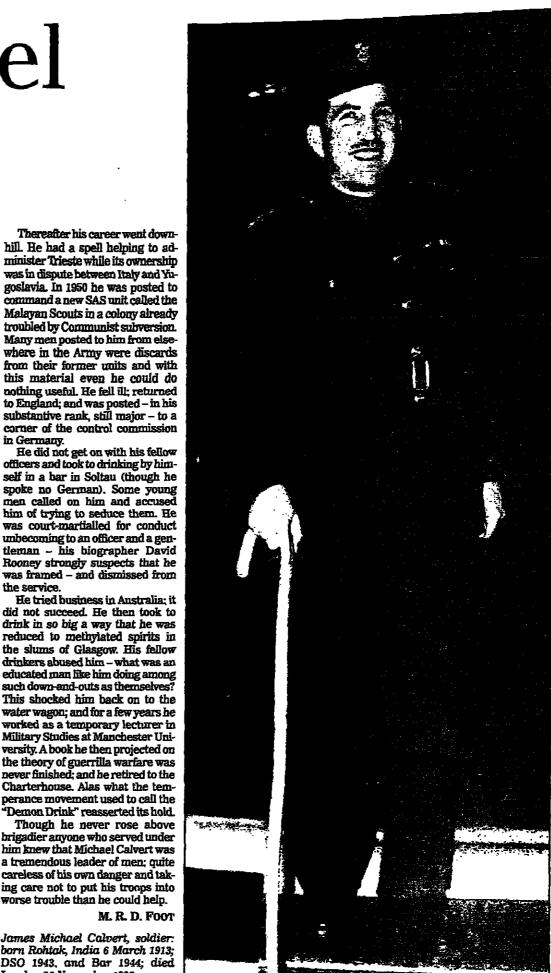
spoke no German). Some young men called on him and accused him of trying to seduce them. He was court-martialled for conduct unbecoming to an officer and a gentleman – his biographer David Rooney strongly suspects that he was framed – and dismissed from

He tried business in Australia; it did not succeed. He then took to drink in so big a way that he was reduced to methylated spirits in the slums of Glasgow. His fellow drinkers abused him – what was an educated man like him doing among such down-and-outs as themselves? This shocked him back on to the water wagon; and for a few years he worked as a temporary lecturer in Military Studies at Manchester University. A book he then projected on the theory of guerrilla warfare was never finished; and he retired to the Charterhouse. Alas what the temperance movement used to call the "Demon Drink" reasserted its hold.

Though he never rose above brigadier anyone who served under him knew that Michael Calvert was a tremendous leader of men; quite careless of his own danger and taking care not to put his troops into worse trouble than he could help.

M. R. D. FOOT

James Michael Calvert, soldier: born Rohtak, India 6 March 1913: DSO 1943, and Bar 1944; died London 26 November 1998.



P. N. Haksar

tenths of his Brigade, but his lead-

ership kept the survivors together

as a formidable fighting force how-

ever weakened, and he pulled through himself. For each of these

Chindit sorties he was appointed to

the DSO. Absurdly enough he then

injured his Achilles tendon in a foot-

ball match. He returned to the Unit-

ed Kingdom and in March 1945.

was picked to succeed Brigadier

R.W. McLeod in command of the

Special Air Service brigade. Lead-

ing again from in front he took two

French parachute units of that

brigade into eastern Holland and

north-west Germany in the closing

stages of the war. For those actions

he was awarded a French and a

powerhouse and one of India's most successful strategists who astutely established the political ister, Indira Gandhi, through populist measures in the Sixties and ambassador to several countries and was one of India's few remaining Cold Warriors and die-hard socialists, instrumental in negotiating a timely military pact with the Soviet Union before the third war with neighbouring Pakistan in 1971. to counter any interference by its ally, the United States.

As principal secretary to Indira Gandhi and India's most powerful civil servant. Haksar played a major role in negotiating the 1972 Shimla Accord with Pakistan after the war that led to the breakaway East Pakistan becoming Bangladesh, His closeness to Gandhi made Haksar perhaps the only man privy to the secret negotiations concluded between her and the Pakistani prime minister Zulfigar Ali Bhutto over the disputed northern province of Kashmir. It remains one of the world's most volatile flashpoints, where armed Muslim separatists have been waging a civil war for an Islamic homeland since 1989 that has claimed nearly 20,000 lives.

The secret deal that led to the Shimla Accord after Pakistan was defeated and with over 90,000

P.N. HAKSAR was an intellectual prisoners of war in Indian hands remains a mystery. When all negotiations between the two antagonists had broken down Gandhi and Bhutomnipotence of a weak prime min- to decided to make one last attempt to break the impasse by meeting without aides. It is widely believed early Seventies. He also served as that only Haksar knew what transpired between the two that eventually led to the Shima Accord which also agreed to resolve the Kashmir dispute bilaterally. But he kept his counsel, revealing nothing despite severe provocation in recent years.

Haksar was best known for firmly establishing a tottering Indira Gandhi in office in the late 1960s after her Congress party won a bare majority in parliament and senior party leaders, known as the Syndicate considered her a gudia or doll. On advice from Haksar, whom she recalled from Vienna where he was ambassador, Gandhi acted swiftly, nationalising banks, abolishing royalty and introducing land reform policies, all measures geared to please the majority poor voters.

Then, after India had decisively defeated Pakistan in the 1971 war, Haksar persuaded Gandhi to call general elections a year early. Gandhi won a two-thirds parliamentary majority, decimating all her former party colleagues who had split the Congress after unsuccessfully conspiring to topple her.



Haksar (centre) was Principal Secretary to Indira Gandhi 1967-73

art of political manipulation, she began to distance herself from Haksar. Gandhi's courtiers had also Haksar's decline, however, began found a new mentor - her younger soon afterwards. Absolute power son Sanjay, a university dropout who

had clouded Gandhi's judgement believed in Fascism and mob rule as and, believing she had mastered the a means of political expression.

Jealous of Haksar's influence over his mother, Sanjay launched a successful campaign to oust the acerbic consigliori that included plastering the walls of his house with

Hulton Getty slogans and publicly vilifying him. In 1973 Haksar was unceremoniously "dethroned" and appointed first vice-chairman of the planning

commission and later chancellor of

the newly founded Jawaharlal

Nehru University in New Delhi.

Two years later Gandhi, facing in- Haksar enjoyed untrammelled dictment for electoral malpractice, declared an internal emergency at Sanjay's behest in which civil liberties were suspended, the press censored and people forcibly sterilised. After 19 months of authoritarian rule Gandhi was forced to call an election in which her Congress party was wiped out, forcing her into political oblivion. The belief at that time was that had Haksar been around events would not have taken such a drastic turn for Gandhi or India.

Born in Gujaranwala (now in Pakistan) into an upper-class Kashmiri Brahmin family in 1913, Haksar studied Sanskrit at home and took an MSc from Allahabad university in northern Uttar Pradesh state. He then went on to the London School of Economics before being called to the Bar from Lincoln's Inn in the early Forties. In London, Haksar was greatly influenced by socialism, a philosophy he adhered to in perpetuity.

On returning home he briefly practised law at Allahabad before oining the diplomatic service in 1947. He served as ambassador to Nigeria and Austria, then was appointed principal secretary by a politically beleaguered Indira Gandhi in 1967 and remained with her for six years. He also served as deputy high commissioner in London in the mid-1960s.

During his tenure with Gandhi

power. It was said of him that he was "fortunate to have combined a capacity to think with the opportunity to act". Unlike his successors he used it constructively to try and resolve India's myriad problems in a practical, realistic and principled manner. He had nothing but contempt for the new breed of politicians and said as much publicly: By the tonnes of flowers placed on Mahatma Gandhi's samadhi (mausoleum)

every year on his birth anniversary. Indian politicians only bury the Mahat-ma's principals deeper and deeper.

Despite his sarcasm, biting wit and hugely abrasive and arrogant manner PN. Haksar was a kind and generous man who, even though nearly blind for many years, was amazingly well informed about local and international events and was constantly invited to speak at public functions. He also wrote several books including Premonitions (1979), One More Life (1990) and Reflections on our Times (1982).

KULDIP SINGH

Parmeshwar Narain Haksar. diplomat and political advisor: born Gujranwala, India 4 September 1913: Principal Secretary to Indira Gandhi 1967-73; Chief Negotiator. India-Pakistan-Bangladesh 1972-73: married Urmila Sapru (deceased; two daughters); died New Delhi 25 November 1998.

Earl Kim

THE MUSIC of the Korean-American Tippett, prosperous under the wing composer Earl Kim deserves to be better known than it is - the musical establishment often seems nonplussed by styles that fall between the two stools of the ultra-modern and the comfortably conservative, neither extremist enough for one nor conventional enough for the other.

But the real cause of Kim's neglect may be something much more banal: he published his music himself, and without the machinery of a commercial publisher behind it, it has so captain in the US Army Air Force Infar failed to make much of an impact outside specialist circles. One has only to look at the careers of some sample British composers, equals in stature, to see what a difference a of his MAs in 1952 - the second came publisher can make: Sir Michael from Harvard in 1967.

of the commercially alert Schotts, is known the world over; Robert Simpson and Edmund Rubbra, stabled at the inefficient Lengnicks, remained localised enthusiasms until latterly when the CD gave them a hand up.

Kim's studies were undertaken initially at the University of California, Los Angeles, in 1939-40, where his first important teacher was none other than Arnold Schoenberg, After a hiatus for war service the was a telligence), he moved on to UC Berkeley, where his mentors were Roger Sessions and Ernest Bloch. He took his BA in 1950, and the first

The move to the east coast had been occasioned in 1952 by his appointment as a lecturer, and later associate professor, at Princeton, New Jersey, where he was to stay until 1967. That year he was appointed to a chair at Harvard, taking up the prestigious James Edward Ditson professorship in 1971, which he held until his retirement in 1990. He enjoyed the position of composer in residence at several important musical centres: Princeton, Marlboro, Dart-

mouth, Tanglewood and Aspen. Kim was passionate about politics as well as about music. He was cofounder and, for three years from 1981, president of "Musicians Against Nuclear Arms" (something else he had in common with Robert

Simpson). In the year of his retirement he turned down an invitation from the National Endowment of the Arts (the US equivalent of the Arts Council), in protest against "all forms of censorship of the arts", as he explained in a letter to The New York Times.

But, if it ever gets a hearing, it is the music that Kim will be remembered by. In spite of his determined political stances, he was not a man for the grand gesture, and his works tend to be small-scale, compact, unemphatic, precisely judged, of an almost Webernian elegance. The music is thinly scored, letting each note in the texture tell, often by allowing silence to set the stage for him. His style was essentially lyrical, marry-

ing modernist terseness to tonal harmony and a fondness of melody that his more purist avant-garde colleagues didn't dare espouse.

He was drawn particularly to the voice, setting a range of poets, from Apollinaire, Baudelaire and Chekhov through Rilke and Rimband to Verlaine. But above all he was attracted to the enigmatic, gestural world of Beckett, on whom he leaned for a generous series of works for voice (usually soprano) and chamber ensemble, often using unconventional combinations of instruments. David Tsang described Kim's music as being "concerned with stripping away non-essentials in a single-minded pursuit of the es-

struct a direct reflection of innermost feelings" - small wonder he felt at home with Beckett.

In this, too, there was some reflection of his Oriental heritage: for a 10-year period, apparently unconsciously, his music adopted a basic underlying tempo that is characteristic of Korean court music. And in one part of his music-theatre piece Exercises en Route he attempted to translate the image of the Japanese rock garden into sound.

One of Kirn's few moments in the limelight came in 1979, when Itzhak Periman commissioned a violin concerto, premiered it in Avery Fisher Hall in New York and recorded it for EMI. Perlman had chosen his comsentials so that no barrier may ob- poser well, though this was only 19 November 1998,

Kim's second work for full orchestra: between the angular outer sections of the concerto lies a rapt. lyrical slow movement of heartwarming, understated beauty which demonstrates that Kim really understood how to write for the violin. Small wonder that the Twelve Caprices for solo violin that he subsequently wrote for Periman have gone on to enter the violin literature. MARTIN ANDERSON

Earl Kim, composer and teacher. born Dinuba, California 6 January 1920; married 1947 Nora Philipsborn. 1956 Miriam Kagan, 1977 Martha Potter (two daughters); died Cambridge. Massachusetts

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Jeremy Maule

JEREMY MAULE was a prodigy. His learning simply beggared belief, not only in the literature and history of early modern Britain in which he specialised. He would grimace at the thought of being known as "The Man Who Knew Everything" (which he was); he was easier in the role of a man passionately curious about everything and everybody. He was self-forgetful to a fault in his readiness to serve other people's plans, whether they were close friends, colleagues, students or virtual strangers. He had an exceptional sense of direction, for others if not always for himself.

He spent his earliest years in Germany where his father was working for the Foreiga Office. A fine treble voice won him a choral award at St Paul's Choir School - he was proud to have sung at Churchill's funeral in 1965 before a scholarship took him to King's School, Canterbury. Early English music and old churches remained a delight to him, preferably in combination. He went up to Christ Church, Oxford, where he took a First in History, and seemed set for a high-flying career in the Civil Service.

He spent the next seven years working mainly in London as a Clerk to the House of Lords. The experience left him with a sharp nose for the workings of large and powerful institutions. To the two ancient universities where he would later work he brought-diplomatic skills of high and low cunning that served him well on committees and in corridors.

It was a brave and financially nearcalamitous decision to return, via an MA in Medieval Studies at Birkbeck, to the academic world that was his natural habitat. He went back to Oxford in 1981 to embark on a DPhil in English on the poetry of praise in the 17th century. His failure to complete it became in due course the stuff of legend. Meanwhile his developing reputation as a remarkable teacher of undergraduates won him short-term appointments at Christ Church and Trinity College, Oxford.

When asked for their views in the mid-1980s on aspiring young scholars in English, Oxford dons would usually conclude with a rueful, mysterious smile - "and then there's Jeremy Maule".

Friends from this era say that his move to a teaching fellowship at Trinity College, Cambridge in 1986 did him a world of good. The feeling was mutual. He hurled himself into teaching with a zeal that could leave diffident undergraduates pale with dismay and the urgent desire to switch to an easier subject like law. His reading lists

He was an inspiring teacher of un-dergraduates, but he was at his very best with the numerous graduate students over whose work he took an infinity of pains. He rapidly established himself, in college and faculty alike, as an indispensable member of the intellectual community, not only through formal lectures, classes and papers, wonderfully learned and thoughtful as these invariably were, but also by virtue of continuous conversation, suggestion, advice and hints, "higher gossiping" as he himself called it.

His own work suffered, as he came to acknowledge. Not that he was unproductive: recent publications included The Oxford Book of Classical Verse in Translation (1995), to which his expertise in Latin made an invaluable contribution, and a fine essay on "Donne and the past". He was a tireless par-

He hurled himself into teaching with a zeal that could leave diffident undergraduates pale with dismay. His reading lists seemed endless

ticipant in conferences, organising and speaking and responding all over Britain, the Continent and North America. But for reasons no one ever quite fathomed, including Maule himself, he shied from the ordeal of publication.

I learned from my own collaboration with him that the only fool-proof method of getting his work into the public domain was brute larceny when his back was turned. He loved nothing better than to trawl through archives, across Europe, Britain and North America. He was a master of the postcard announcing with triumphant illegibility the discovery of an unknown manuscript or the correction of a misattribution.

None the less, his findings were substantial and he was gaining in confidence about seeing them into print. In particular there were forthcoming contributions to the new Yale edition of Andrew Marvell's prose works, an essay on "Crabbe and the lower orders", editions of previously unknown verse and



حكدًا من الاصل

prose by Thomas Traherne, collections of critical essays on Elizabeth Cary, Robert Boyle, Donne and Traherne.

Especially characteristic were his plans to edit the afflicted conversations of one "Mr Briggs" with unseen powers after his failed suicide attempt in 1574. He had started up his own small press for the publication of Renaissance texts in manuscript, and was, as ever, in cahoots with collaborators actual and potential all over the world. It heartened him to know that there would be innumerable friends, colleagues and exstudents eager to see so many of his good intentions through, as they will.

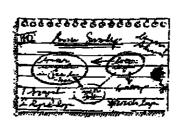
Books and manuscripts were his great passion, but his friends will remember him for many other things, not least for his endless capacity for making new friendships and nurturing old ones. They will remember his appetite, his sorrel soup, his jam, his plants, his postcards, his love of lists. He had a strong domestic impulse reflected in his

affection for old-fashioned recipes, gardens and dogs. They will remember his kindliness, his moodiness, his scorn, his patience, his owlishness, the bulk of his physical presence with its powers of intimidation and tact, his dignity, his sense of justice, his big-heartedness.

Jeremy Maule had a disconcertingly abrupt way of ending conversations, on the phone or in the street, as if he had suddenly remembered he was late for someone else. In later years he softened this, on the remonstrance of friends, by inventing an idiosyncratic and rapidly swallowed exclamation - "Prosper!"

None of us was prepared for the speed of his last parting.

Jeremy Frank Maule, English scholar and teacher: born Wuppertal, Germany 11 August 1952; Fellow and Lecturer in English, Trinity College, Cambridge 1986-98; died Cambridge 25



CULINARY NOTES

ANNE CHOTZINOFF GROSSMAN AND LISA GROSSMAN THOMAS

Napoleonic pies - and rats in onion sauce

LET'S FACE it, food just binations of flavourings - but doesn't taste the way it used the ingredients themselves to. Time was, we milked our cows by hand, directly into the syllabub bowl. We raised free-standing pastry "coffins" to encase perishable pie fillings. We "sweetened" rotten meat by burying it for three months - then cooked it, smothered in sugar and spices, for several hours before serving it forth. (And if the result was unrecognisable, so much the better.)

Of course, all this was 200 years ago, when Patrick O'Brian's Captain Jack Aubrey was sailing the seas and keeping Napoleon's navy at bay, all the while eating Lobscouse, Burgoo, Skillygalee, Drowned Baby, Floating Archipelago in the Shape of the Galapagos, and Millers Dressed in Onion Sauce.

Recreating the tastes of early 19th-century food is not unlike today's popular sport of trying to recreate the musical sounds of the same era. No matter how faithfully you reproduce the conditions, the effect will never really be the same, because the environment, our bodies and our senses have changed. It's not just the sound itself that is inevitably different: it's different partly because the ears that hear it now are not necessarily equivalent to the

ears that heard it then. It's exactly the same with food: you can use the same implements, the same ingredients, and the same comare not what they were, nor the reasons for using them. Our palates, like our ears, are attuned to the age in which we live. It simply isn't possi-

ble to go back. The challenge, then, is to rediscover and recreate, in a form that our modern palates can accept, the foods (both real and fictitious) of the Napoleonic era - and of the Aubrey/Maturin novels in particular. The obstacles are legion.

Chief among them, perhaps, is the source material or, in some cases, the lack thereof. It isn't difficult to find period recipes for most dishes, but deciphering them can be another matter. Until the mid-19th century or so, cookery books were woefully inexact when it came to such minor matters as quantities, proportions and cook-

ing times. Quite often the best approach in such cases is the "Goldilocks method" of estimating: start with too much; then overcompensate ("Now to the other extreme you're tending"); then compromise. The result will almost inevitably be just right.

But what to do when there is no source material at all? "Millers" in onion sauce are a case in point: the culinary literature of the 19th century yields no recipes for ship's rats in any sauce whatsoever. Floating Archipelago in the Shape of the Galapagos is another such, as are any number of elaborate and fantastical sea-pies and puddings.

Culinary deconstruction is the key. Like ordinary academic deconstruction, this discipline studies the text for clues that the writer almost certainly never intended to put there, and like ordinary deconstruction, if necessary it can be conveniently twisted to produce a desired result.

It is sometimes the only tool available for deciphering these references. It's merely a matter of delving a layer or so beneath the surface: not for unconscious motives or broad philosophical themes, but for such clues as the nationality of a whaler's pastrycook: the season when a particular pie was served; a breakfast scene that providentially reveals the presence of bacon fat.

To the enlightened - or determined - researcher, the text of the novels supplies all deficiencies. And the bacon fat, by the way, is a key ingredient of Millers in Onion Sauce, which proved truly delicious, especially with baby peas and tiny new red

Anne Chotzinoff Grossman and Lisa Grossman Thomas are the authors of 'Lobscouse & Spotted Dog; a gastronomic companion to the Aubrey/Maturin novels'

GAZETTE

Deaths: Hernando Cortés,

conqueror of Mexico, 1547;

BIRTHS, **MARRIAGES** & DEATHS

BIRTHS

CARSLAW: On 27 November, to Nicola (née Hayman) and Michael, a daughter, Olivia, a sister for Emilia and Anna

POPOV: On 30 November, to Tanya (née Brisby) and Julian, a son, Alexander Stephen, a brother for George.

DEATHS

DAVIS: Barbara, widow of Ryland Davis, aged 80. Died peacefully at her home on Friday 27 November. The funeral will be at Cley Church, at 2.30pm on Tues-day 8 December. No flowers please. Any donations to Cley Church. Please send all to South Knoll, Church Lane, Cley next the Sea, Norfolk NR25 TUD.

DUNNING: Genevieve (Genny) McMenamy peacefully on 30 November. Beloved wife of Dun-November. Beloved wife of Dun-can for 48 years and sister of Bill. Dearly loved mother of Dannette, Katty and Elizabeth and grandmother of Sam. Sarah, Jack, Kate and Robert. A Thanksgiving Service to cele-brate Genny's life will be held at All Souls Church, Langham Place, London W1 on Wednesday 16 December at 12.30pm. Family flowers only, but donations, if desired, to All Souls Church (at the above address).

HUTCHESON: Stella Christine, died at her home in Colchester on 30 November, aged 43 years. A fine wife, mother, daughter, sister, friend and lawyer. For funeral details please contact Humaball Funeral Directors, 01208 760049. No flowers, but it desired denaitors to Macmillan

MEMORIAL SERVICES

RECKINGHAM: Charles F. A memorial meeting to celebrate the life of Professor Charles Fraser Beckingham will be held at the Travellers' Club, 106 Pall Mail, London SW1, on Monday 14 December 1938, at 5.30pm.

Announcements for Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS are charged at £6.50 line (VAT extra).

BIRTHDAYS

Sir Maurice Bathurst QC, international judge, 85: Sir Frederic Bennett, former MP 80; Mr Timothy Boswell MP, 56; The Hon Nigel Calder, science writer, 67; Professor Sir Alan Cook, former Master, Selwyn College, Cambridge, 76; Sir Frank Cooper, former senior civil servant, 76: Sir David Davies, former chairman, Weish Development Agency, 89; Sir Noel Davies, chairman, Nuclear Electric, 65; Mr Mike England, football manager, 56; Mr Andrew George MP, 40; Mr David Green, director of Voluntary Service Overseas, 50: Mr Michael Green, chairman, Carlton Communications and ITN, 51; General Alexander Haig, former US Secretary of State, 74; Marshal of the RAF Sir Peter Harding, former Chief of the Defence Staff, 65; Miss Julie Harris, actress, 73; Miss Patricia Hewitt MP; Sir George Labouchere, former ambassador to Spain, 93; Dr Brian Lang, chief executive and deputy chairman, British Library, 53; Mr Roy Moss, former vice-chairman, Allied Domecq, 69; Dame Winifred Prentice, former president. Royal College of Nursing, 88; Miss Monica Seles, tennis player, 25; Mr Alex Smith, MEP, 55.

ANNIVERSARIES

Births: Agostino Agazzari, composer, 1578; Henry Gally Knight, architectural iliustrator, 1786; Sir Francis Carruthers Gould, caricaturist and politician, 1844; Georges-Pierre Seurat, painter, 1859; Manuel Ponce, composer, 1882; George Richards Minot, physician, 1885; Sir John (Giovanni Battista) Barbirolli, conductor, 1899; Peter Cari Goldmark, inventor of the long-playing record, 1906; Maria Anna Cecilia Sofia Callas (Kalogeropoulos), operatic soprano, 1923.

Margaret of Angouleme, Queen of Henry II of Navarre, 1549; Gerardus Mercator (Gerhard Kaufmann), cartographer, 1594; Philip II, Duke of Orleans, Regent of France, 1723; Donatien-Alphonse François, Marquis de Sade, writer and philosopher, 1814; Amelia Opie (Alderson), novelist, 1853; John Brown, abolitionist, executed 1859; Edmond-Eugène Alexis Rostand, playwright, 1918; Sir Evelyn Henry Wood, field marshal, 1919; E.M. Delafield (Edmée Elizabeth Monica de la Pasture), novelist, 1943; Philip

Arthur Larkin, poet, 1985;

Clarence Robert Orville

Robert Cummings (Charles

Main Cummings), actor, 1990.

On this day: the new St Paul's Cathedral was opened, 1697; Napoleon was crowned Emperor in Paris by Pope Pius VII, 1804; Birkbeck College, London, was founded, 1823; the Gaiety Theatre, Strand, London, closed, 1866; King Camp Gillette patented the first safety razor, 1901; Senator Joseph McCarthy was condemned by the US Senate. 1954; the first London performance of the musical show Hello, Dolly! was presented, 1965; the Persian Gulf sheikhdoms combined to form the United Arab Emirates, 1971; in Bangladesh, a cyclone killed 1,200 people, while 6,000

Today is the Feast Day of St Bibiana or Viviana, St Chromatius of Aquilea, St Nonnus and St Silvanus of Constantinople.

were missing, 1988.

LECTURES

National Gallery: Nicholas Penny, "Pictures from Christ Church (i): Tintoretto, The Martyrdom of Saint Lawrence", 1pm. Victoria and Albert

Aldrich, "Furnishing the Renaissance Interior", 2pm. Tate Gallery: Oliver Collins, "A Painter on Painting: portraits of women", 1pm. British Museum: Louise Schofield, "Jewellery of the Greek Bronze Age", 11.30am. Wallace Collection, London W1: Joanne Hedley, "Italian

Museum: Diana Perry

Paintings in the Wallace Collection", 1pm. Royal Society of Arts, London WC2: Professor Peter Mortimore and Sebastian Conran, "Handing on the Education Baton: working to learn", 6pm.

TYBURN CONVENT

The Right Rev Dom Francis Rossiter, Abbot President of the English Benedictine Congregation, unveiled a Westminster City Council green plaque yesterday at Tyburn Convent, London W2, to commemorate the 105 martyrs who died on Tyburn Tree (gallows) between 1535 and 1681. Mother Xavier McDonagle, the Mother General at Tyburn Convent, London, welcomed the guests to the ceremony. The Rev Francis Edwards, of the Jesuit Church, London W1, gave a reading.

NEWSPAPER SOCIETY

Mr Charles Brims, President of the Newspaper Society, Chief Executive of Portsmouth & Sunderland Newspapers, hosted a breakfast yesterday in honour of the Lord Chancellor, Lord Irving of Lairg QC, at Bloomsbury House, London WC1. Among those present were: Mr. Guy Black; Mr. Robin Burgess; Mr. Mick Carter; Mr. Alec Davidson; Mr. James Evans; Mr. Lynne Gardiner; Mr. Philip Graf; Sir. Nicholas Hewitt Bt; Mr. Hubert J. Hirst; Mr. Fred Johnston; Mr. Iam Locks; Mr. David Newel; Mr. Chris. Oakley; Mr. Keith Parker; Mr. Allan Percival; Mr. Santha Rassalah; Mr. John Robertson; Ms. Jenny Howe Mr. Bob

Robertson; Ms Jenny Howe; Mr Bob Satchwell; Mr Peter Strong.

ROYAL Engagements

The Queen and The Duke

Royal Smithfield Show, Earls

of Edinburgh visit the

Court Exhibition Centre,

London SW5. The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron of the London Guildhall University, visits the new National Library of Women, London E1, and the integrated Learning Resource Centre. London E1; and, as Honorary Member of the Shikar Club, attends a club dinner at the Savoy Hotel, London WC2. The Queen Mother dines with the Benchers at the Honourable Society of the Middle Temple, London EC4; The Princess Royal, Patron, National Association of Victim Support Schemes, attends their Advisory Board Meeting at Church House, London SW1; as President, Royal Yachting Association. attends a meeting of the Council at the Royal Thames Yacht Club, London SW1; and, as President, the Princess Royal Trust for Carers, attends a dinner at N.M. Rothschild and Sons Ltd, London EC4. Princess Margaret attends a Gala Evening, in aid of the Yehudi Menuhin School and the New Stables Theatre Appeal, Wavendon, Milton Keynes, at the Goldsmiths' Hall, London EC2. Princess Alexandra, Chancellor, Lancaster University, presides at ceremonies for the conferment of Higher and Honorary Degrees, and Postgraduate Diplomas at the university.

CHANGING OF THE GUARD

The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, 11am: No 7 Company Coldstream Guards mounts the Queen's Guard, at Buckingham Palace, 11.30am, band provided by the Irish Guards.

complied with order AN ACTION should not have been struck out on the basis

of failure to comply with an "unless" order requiring service of a list of relevant documents where the list had been served by the due date, but it was alleged that

the list was incomplete. The Court of Appeal allowed the appeal of the plaintiffs against an order striking out their claim against the defendants for failure to comply with an "unless" order.

The plaintiff lenders had brought consolidated actions against the first defendants for negligent valuations. The proceedings were commenced on 8 November 1995. On 24 July an order was made that lists of documents be served by the parties within 28 days of the service of further and better particulars.

Further and better particulars were served on 13 October 1996, but neither party served their list of documents in accordance with the order. The first defendants served their list on 28 January 1998, and on 18 February issued a summons for an "unless" order. On 25 February by consent

it was ordered that: Unless the plaintiffs serve a list of documents setting out in proper form all relevant documents that are or have been in their possession custody or power by 4pm on 4 March 1998 [the action] against the first defendants be dismissed.

The plaintiffs served their list within the time specified, but the first defendants applied, inter alia, for an order that the actions be dismissed by reason of the plaintiffs' failure to comply with the "unless" order. The judge concluded that the Nicholas Elliott QC (Taylor Joyn-

WEDNESDAY Law Report

Incomplete list

2 DECEMBER 1998

Realkredit Danmark A/S and another v York Montague Ltd and another

Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Morritt and Lord Justice Tuckey) 26 November 1998

plaintiffs' discovery was "still woefully inadequate", that the list served by them contained "obvious and substantial" lacunae, and that there was no reason why, in the exercise of his discretion, the sanction set out in the "unless" order should not be applied.

The plaintiffs appealed, con-tending, inter alia, that the judge had erred in law in rejecting their submission that, on its proper construction, the "unless" order had been complied with when a list of documents, which was not either a colourable evasion or a sham. was served by the due date; and that he should have held that allegations of incompleteness in the list, which might have founded an application for specific discovery, could not found an application to strike out for non-compliance with the "unless" order, and further that he had effectively reversed the burden of proof by requiring the plaintiffs to prove that they had complied with the "unless" order by providing a complete list of documents.

Barbara Dohmann QC and Stuart Catchpole (Rowe & Maw) for the first defendants.

Mr Justice Tuckey said that the first defendants had not sought an order for specific discovery, but had instead invited the judge to embark on a wide-ranging critique of the list served by the plaintiffs and to conclude that it did not comply with the "unless"

order.

The judge should not have accepted that invitation. The "unless" order had required service of a list. The list had been served and it had not been suggested to the judge that that had been done otherwise than in good faith.

On the appeal the first defendants had said that the list served by the plaintiffs was not a proper list, seeking to equate it with one served otherwise than in good faith. Applying the language of Reiss v Woolf [1952] 2 all ER 3, however, the list served by the plaintiffs could fairly be described as a list, even if a further application for specific discovery requiring further documents could be

made. The judge had therefore, adopted the wrong approach in dismissing the plaintiff's claim. Had he approached the matter correctly, he would have decided that the plaintiffs had complied with the "unless" order. Instead, he had embarked on a protracted exercise to show that they had not complied with the requirement for discovery.

KATE O'HANLON Barrister

NO APOLOGIES for returning to John Updike's masterly Bech at Bay. Along with The Simpsons scriptwriters, he has the most astute eye for contemporary America. At one point, Bech is on a disputations committee of the great and good, and is told, "all you've

there on your tochis."

WORDS CHRISTOPHER HAWTREE tochis, n.

Variously spelt, from the Hebrew for "beneath", it has been used this century got to do is preside. Just sit

R.H. Rimmer. He also ghosted the memoirs of Mistress Jacqueline, Whips and Kisses. This suggests the tenor of Mr Rimmer's work, unreviewed by the TLS, but one should not judge hastily. At least one expression therein - "your tuchis is smiling sideways for buttocks, as in The Pre- at me" - would not be out of mar Experiment (1976) by place in Updike.

John Dempsie

You ask the questions

(Such as: Noel Edmonds, why have you stopped wearing jumpers? And where is Mr Blobby?)

was born in Ilford. Essex. The son of a headmaster and an art teacher, he was 20 when he landed his first job in broadcasting at Radio BBC as a radio producer. His many television and radio credits include Radio One's Breakfast Show, the children's programme Multi- I do remember that Hardy Amies lives in the West Country with his wife Helen and their four daughters.

Where do you get those jumpers? Isobel Stephen, Fulham, London And when did you last see me on television, Isobel? The jumpers went a long time ago. As did the bright Versace shirts. (My jumpers are now being used as roofing material for the Millennium Dome.

I thought you were brilliant on Radio 1 but your TV show is embarrassing. Are my tastes changing, or has your target audience changed? Anonumous

I hate to contradict you, but you are completely wrong. I was also embarrassing on Radio 1 and I shall continue to be embarrassing for as long as I can breathe.

Where is Mr Blobby? Sarah Malone, south London Who cares?

Who is your greatest idol? Mr Fletcher, East Susser

Without a shadow of a doubt or a moment's hesitation, I sink to my knees in euphoric reverence and declare undying allegiance to the greatest human being of all time -Jeremy Clarkson (I worship the ground that he stubs his fags out on).

What do you think is your greatest achievement in life, and how did you achieve it? Mark Richards, Swansea

Rendering my superhero, Jeremy people into talking about a bogus

Clarkson, speechless by telling him drug. How did you feel when you Certainly. (Send me a picture of Mans 24-hour race.

You were at Brentwood School thor Douglas Adams. What was it Luxembourg before moving to the about our staid, traditional school that produced creative nutters? (I'm an old Brentwoodian.) Dave Skinner, e-mail

Coloured Swap Shop and Noel's and Jack Straw both originated House Party, which is broadcast on from Brentwood School, so I am not Saturday nights at 7pm on BBC1. He sure you have identified a trend. If cerity, and still object to the fact that

Please send any questions you

Leach or Mick Hucknall to: You

Dept, The Independent, 1 Canada

Square, Canary Wharf, London

E14 5DL. Or fax 0171-293 2182 or

e-mail to yourquestions@ inde-

pendent.co.uk - by noon on

servitude of its archaic and irrele-

recently, and, if so, were they any-

I fear the contradictory nature of

your question leaves it impossible for

me to respond. (PS I don't actually like parties very much - I prefer

riotously evil dinner parties at which

you can lob the odd grossly politically

I was shocked when I watched

Chris Morris's programme fooling

incorrect comment into the

thing like your show?

Mick Irving, Manchester

Friday, 4 December.

would like to ask Penelope

Ask the Questions, Features

YOU ASK THE QUESTIONS

NEXT WEEK: CHILD CARE GURU PENELOPE

LEACH, THEN FOLLOWING, MICK HUCKNALL

there are signs of creative lunacy in Chris Morris finds the subject amus-

Old Brentwoods, I am sure it must ing. Had I not objected to the hoax.

be due to the euphoria we felt when I would only have been criticised for

we escaped from the near-penal trivialising drug abuse, so I think it

Have you thrown any good parties Do you have a fan club?

a hard place".

silly things?

ever speak to him now? Sylvia Deal Norbury

with Griff Rhys-Jones and the au-ridiculing me for the fact that I objected to the hoax. Keen as ever to prove that "the joker can't take a joke", they completely missed the point. Drug abuse among young people in Britain is not only rampant, it's also playing a major role in the destabilisation of society.

I made the warning film in all sin-

was a case of "between a rock and

Why do TV audiences like really

I am not really sure that they do.

However, in order to play along

with your line of thinking, maybe it

has something to do with the fact

that life itself is pretty silly when you

Do you have a crinkly bottom?

Chris Bellingham, Brixton

No - does anybody?

Terry Clarke, Somerset

come to think about it.

that I intended driving in the Le found out it was a hoax? Do you yours and I will send you one of

The tabloid newspapers delighted in Do you think that women find facial hair attractive? Peter Brown, Croydon

On what? If you mean blokes, I guess some do and some don't. Fortunately for me, some very good-looking women have/do/might soon.

Did you grow a beard to try to look

Katie Hampton, Leeds No - I grew a beard to cover a rather unsightly scar on the left-hand side of my chin. It is all that remains of a particularly wild night in a brothel in downtown Beirut. I was only 13. It was my very first time. (It was also the last time that I worked as a pizza delivery boy - I fell off the moped 16 times, hence the scar.)

What's your favourite sound in the charts now? Ian Webb. Devon

Now come on, you are surely taking the piss. Let's not forget that I was one of the most popular and successful disc jockeys of all time - you don't think I know anything about music, do you?

Should schools expel kids caught with drugs? Mr Pointer, Brighton

Yep. They should then be given professional counselling on the issues at stake and also be given the opportunity to return to their former school on a "probationary period". On a second offence the full weight of the law should be brought to their attention.

ı good job? Miriam Michaels, Crouch End, London Don't be daft. He's the Prime

Julie Hamilton, Horsham

court of Justice for the emechation of the share premium account of the above-named Company.

AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petrition is directed to be beard before the Registror of the Companies Court at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WCCA 2LL on Wednesday the 9th December, 1998.

ANY creditor or shareholder of the Company desiring to appose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of share premium account should appear at the time of the bearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.

purpose. A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same: by the undermentioned solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same. Dated this Joth day of November, 1969.

The Insulvency Act 1986 | & F PROPERTY HOLDINGS (SELBIE) LIMITED

NOTICE IS HEREBY CIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above named Company will be held on 11th December 1996 at 4 Charleshouse Square, London ECIM 6EN at 12:00 npm for the purpose methodol in Section 99 et see

If you had to go on Swap Shop, what would you most like to swap?

come to my senses. that's happened to you on TV? edly the worst moment was being forced to sing and dance with the Spice Girls on House Party.

Why have you stopped wearing jumpers so frequently, and what are your recommendations for this season's winter warmers? Derek Baker, Portsmouth Blimey, this is where we came in -

genitals of the Andorran goat, spun with a mixture of unwrapped Brillo Mr Blobby for Caprice - I probably How long have you got? Undoubt- pads and dental floss to provide an break my resolve.

unparalleled barrier to the very harshest arctic winds.

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Lavid Bartlett of New

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There was another case

- * of Obstetricians :

in tress that so

Jules Browning, Birmingham We once gotcha'd a major sporting personality who was so appallingly unpleasant that we stopped the filming and sent him home in a taxi without telling him what had really been going on. I have always vowed

wouldn't understand any more of the conversation, but who cares?

Do you rate Chris Evans? Why? Rachel Gill, St Albans Do you think Tony Blair is doing At the outset I rated him very highly indeed and genuinely felt that his talent was good for certain areas of the industry that were in danger of stagnation. However, I have now

> What's the most humiliating thing Louisa Hollingsworth, Kettering

but I am flattered by your request for a seasonal tip and would recommend wool plucked from the

Have you ever feit a stunt has gone too far? If so, when?

that I would never reveal the subject's identity but fifty quid in used fivers in a brown envelope could

CLASSIFIED

Legal Notices

IN PARLIAMENT SESSION 1998-99

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that application has been made to Parliament in the present Session by the Kent County Council (here-inafter referred to as "the Council" and "the county") for leave to intro-duce a Bill (hereinafter referred to as "the Bill") under the above name or short title for purposes of which the following is a concise summa-

(1) To provide that a person shall not carry on the business of a dealer in second-hand goods in the county unless he is registered by the Council or exempted from registration and that any premises from which the business of a second-hand dealer is carried out shall also be registered and that registration of the dealer and pre in force for three years:

(2) To provide that every person so registered must keep a record of all transactions relating to second-hand goods including a description of the articles, the name and address of the person from whom the articles were acquired and the odometer reading and registration number of any vehicle acquired. A record must also be made of any transaction in which a second-hand article is sold for more than £100 and that the record shall be kept for a period of 2 years and must be produced on request to an authorised officer of the Council or a police constable:

(3) To provide that it shall be an offence to deal in second-hand goods without having registered in accordance with the provisions of the Bill, to enter information in the record or give such information that is known to be false and to acquire second-hand goods from persons under 16 years old, where the price paid or the value of the goods exceeds £10:

(4) To enact provisions relating to occasional sales and squat trading, including the giving of notice to the Council 21 days in advance of the holding of an occasional sale or the carrying out of squat trading. If no such notice is given and the Council or the police suspect that any such sale or trading is to take place, is taking place or has taken place they may demand certain information about the sale from the holder of the sale or person carrying out the trading. Provision is also made for the keeping of records by the holder of certain sales and the person who holds the sale or carries out the squar trading must display his name and business address at the sale or clace of trading and name patters relating the header. place of trading and on any notices relating thereto:

(5) To enact provisions of a general nature applicable to the Bill including powers of entry, inspection and examination, obstruction of authorised officer, liability of directors, defence of due difigence and the application of certain provisions of the Public Health Act 1936.

On and after the 4th December 1998, a copy of the Bill may be inspected and copies thereof obtained at a price of £1 per copy at the offices the undermentioned County Secretary and Parliamentary

Objection to the Bill may be made by depositing a Petition against It in the office of the Clerk of the Parliaments, House of Lord or the Private Bill Office of the House of Commans. The latest date for the deposit of such a Petition in the first House will be 6th February 1999, if the Bill originates in the House of Lords or the 30th January 1999, if it originates in the House of Commons. Information regarding the deposit of such Petitions may be obtained from the Office of the Clerk of the Parliaments. House of Lords or the Private Bill Office of the House of Commons or the undermentioned Parliamentary Agents.

Dated this 2nd day of December, 1998 G.D. Wild G.D. Wild The Keni County Council, County Hall, Makiston, ME14 YXQ County Secretary, SHARPE PRITCHARD Elizabeth House, Fulwood Place, London, WC1V 6HG. Parliamentary Agents.

BY THE MATTER OF SAFEPEAK LTD T/A HENDON GLAZING AND ر موانحان موار

AND IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986 NOTICE & HERBY (AND parasal to Rule A.100 of the incoherry Rules 1986 has on yo Movember 1998, 1 Steven Ledie Smith of Mercre & Hole, Character House, 72 London Road, 5 Allom, Herborchine All 188 was appointed Lopeding of the above-named company by the members and conference. VEN LESLE SMITH Liquidate

Date 26 November 1998



Legal Notices

IN PARLIAMENT SESSION 1998-99

under the above name or short title for purposes of which the following is a concise summary:-

To disapply the rules of law relating to perpetuities and per-petual trusts and any other enactment or rule of law restricting the accumulation of income under a trust insolar as they relate to Trust No.2 as amended by the Bill.

On and after the 4th December 1998, a copy of the Bill may be inspected and copies thereof obtained at a price of £1 per copy at the offices of the Company Secretary of Baxi Partnership Limited, Brownedge Road, Bamber Bridge, Preston, PR5 65N and the undergraphioned Partnership Appeter

Objection to the Bill may be made by depositing a Petition against it in the office of the Clerk of the Parliaments. House of Lords or the Private Bill Office of the House of Commons. The latest date for the deposit of such a Petition in the first House will be 6th February

ADDLESHAW BOOTH & CO., 100 Barbirolli Square, Manchesier, M2 3AB.

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poses mentioned in Section 99 et seq of the sald Act.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that Maurice Raymond Domington, FIPs, of Populeton & Appleby, 4 Charterfouse Square, London, ECTM 581 is appointed to act as the qualified insolvency Practitioner pursuant to Section 1981/21pt of the said Act who will familie treditions, fire of charge, with such information concerning the Company's attlets as they may reasonably require.

Dated this 25th day of November 1998. Mobility



A BRITISH MANUFACTURER

No. 006725 of 1998
IN THE BIGH COURT OF
JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
COMPANIES COURT
IN THE MATTER OF
CAPLIN CYBERNETICS
CORPORATION LIMITED
AND IN THE MATTER OF THE
COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a
Petition was on 23rd Nowaber, 1996,
presented to Her Majesty's High
Court of Justice for the cancellation
of the share premium account of the BAXI PARTNERSHIP LIMITED TRUSTS NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that application has been made to Parliament in the present Session by Bazi Partnership Limited and the Trustees of an employee benefit bust thereinafter referred to as "Trust No.2") for leave to introduce a Bill thereinafter referred to as "the Bill")

To validate certain actions taken in the past by the trustees of two employee benefit trusts (Trusts No. 1 and No. 2) established by Baxi Partnership Limited, a private holding company, where doubt has been cast over whether those actions were technically in conformity.

To provide for the amendment of Trust No.2 by the replacement of its substantive provisions by the provisions as set out in the Bill.

ned Parliamentary Agents.

1999, if the Bill originates in the House of Londs or the 30th January 1999, if it originates in the House of Commons, Information regarding the deposit of such Petitions may be obtained from the Office of the Clerk of the Parliaments, House of Lords or the Private Bill Office of

Dated this 2nd day of December 1998

SHARPE PRITCHARD andon, WCIV 6HG.

D HENDERSON, For and on behal of 1 & F Spinness Administration & Ltd as Director of 1 & F Property

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IRRITATIONS OF MODERN LIFE

19: THE MOUNTAIN BIKE BY ANDREW MARTIN

BIKES USED to be sold by oily little men with rolledup cigarettes behind their ears, and their shops had names like "W Earnshaw: Bikes". They sold thin, elegant machines with wide seats supported by admittedly not very springy springs, three gears or five at the most, saddle bags on the back or baskets on the front. One of the most vibrant colours that they came in was brown.

Today, bike shops are called witty but somehow annoying things like "Spokes Persons", and if you go into one and ask for a traditional bike of the sort described above, the young, disturbingly fit-looking assistant will seem perplexed: "But how would you go downhilling in the Cairngorms on a machine like that?" he'll say. "Try taking it through Epping

Forest, and it'll explode.' You explain that you don't want to go "off-road". You want to go "on-road" on an actual road, that is, the one that leads to your place of work, or the shops. The assistant will look at you blankly, for his shop will be full of squat, garishly hued machines designed to be ridden over rough

terrain: mountain bikes. puncture than ordinary Like may terrible things. ones and, when you go mountain bikes were around a street corner, they invented in California by a squirm in a worrying way. bunch of hippies who, in the The numerous gears late Seventies, had nothing anything from 18 to 27 - are better to do than go very unnecessary, and such are fast down steep and bumpy complications of the front and back cogging that hills. For the past 20 years they've been the staple of many are duplicates of the British bike industry, others. Mountain bikes have quick-release wheels and their defenders say they've made cycling ideal for changing credible and exciting. punctures rapidly. Ideal, What I say is that they are a snare -

also, for thieves What they don't have is mudguards, so you get a brown streak up your back on rainy These bikes are

fashion items, and the accessories have been jazzed up and euphemised accordingly. "Cycle clips" was a very good description of what cycle clips are. Now they're called "reflecting trouser bands". Saddle bags, which tended to cost about £5, are deemed to be too dour for the modern cyclist.

Now you must have a pannier on a rack, which can only be fitted by someone who's spent the past 10 years fitting panniers on racks on to bikes. The total cost for this fixture plus fitting might easily be £60.

There is light at the end of the tunnel, however. It may be that people are realising that they haven't taken their mountain bikes into Epping Forest much at all over the past few months. Or indeed, ever. And there seems to be a resurgent demand for ordinary bikes, especially of the sort ridden in Amsterdam. They are thin, elegant things with wide seats supported by admittedly not very springy springs, and three gears or five at the most... Mountain bike madness may soon be over.

Storm in a basil pot

Continued from page 1 slept with anything that moved.

He was the man on the boat or, rather, they were the couple who set out to live on a boat, in 1939. "But you can say all those words and he would be nothing more than colourful," says Lisa. "And I think he was much more than that. I think he's the only truly Romantic figure in her life, and the only hero figure, except for her father."

But, I say, hardly anyone knew about him. "I know. But some of the most magical symbols in your life are things you don't talk about very much. She did an awful lot of hiding. She hid from herself. That's why she drank."

interviews for Lisa Chaney to find the real Elizabeth. She did not ask the literary executor's permission, because she knew it would not be given. She says that Jill Norman was consis-

tently obstructive but that, in

certainly as far as the

average road-user is

concerned. The

knobbly tyres of

mountain bikes

might be handy

they're no less

in Epping

Forest, but

likely to

the end, she didn't care. "It got to the point where I felt liberated about not writing an authorised book - after I'd gone through this thing where people would not talk about this bit or that bit of her life. They only wanted to talk about the nice, clean Elizabeth. But I'd got through that and people were telling me about the real Elizabeth. If this were authorised,

I might have to write about the

clean, tidy Elizabeth. How bor-

ing! You can write euphemisti-

It took hours and hours of cally and say in a polite way that someone was grumpy, or drank quite a lot or was forceful with ideas. But I didn't want to write a dead book. At a certain point, I just thought. Ohhh. it is fantastic not having to do that!" Jill Norman does not agree.

"I'm sure Elizabeth David would not have wanted this book. She was very ambivalent about whether she wanted a biography written at all. Quite Elizabeth David often, she said no and was quite firm... I think she would be annoyed at the kind of conclusions Lisa Chaney draws." Like what? "I'm sorry, I don't want to be drawn into that."

Presumably we will find out when the authorised biography comes out next year. Jill Norman tells me that after approve of that.



Elizabeth's death she was approached by several "reputable" biographers. "I said no to all of them because I did not think they were right. Lisa Chaney did not ask permission. She just went ahead and did it." And Elizabeth David would

حكذا من الاصل

tionie Levis a reader to tionient at Laprasi Tudied 100 menja erhond. The period · Wisconstruct for me should be strong erc going through time. But the problem v inese men their par -motions but because they could turn to of the pregnancy they both These feelings en gende arker. "a" man became class denly he found he coul the bus to work any



She was known as the drunken wife of Dylan Thomas. Now Caitlin's son aims to rescue his mother's reputation. By Ann McFerran

مكذا من الاصل

Dylan was my mother's ruin

rancesco Fazio, 37, is the son of Guiseppe Fazio and Caithn Thomas, who was married to Dylan Thomas for 12 years. After the poet's death in 1953, Caitlin moved to Italy where she fell in love with Guiseppe and, at the age of 49, gave birth to Francesco.

"My mother Caitlin had a lot in common with Sylvia Plath. They both made suicide attempts. They both married men who were the most famous poets of their day. They both lived in their shadow and gave up their own work to sustain heir men's art. These women suffered so much and have so much to tell. But their husbands were so egotistical that they didn't let the women tell their story.

Biographers portray Caitlin as a woman who was an irresponsible and unloving mother. But people underestimate the devastating effects of alcohol. I admire Dylan the poet, but I am angry that he made my mother abandon her career to become an alcoholic, like him.

As the children of alcoholic parents, both Dylan and Caitlin were vulnerable to alcoholism but they saw how much I was suffering. Caitlin's childhood was much worse than Dylan's - her father abandoned her mother when she was six. Giuseppe who would not put up with She was lacking in confidence and Dylan never made her feel like a woman. He put his beautiful romance on to paper, telling my mother she was his inspiration and muse. Tet in reality he was always in the tried to commit suicide. Not long pub and sleeping with other women. after they met, she threw herself Caitlin became lonely and de- from a balcony at a party in Rome. their money on alcohol she always pressed and she turned to drink to He saved her by grabbing her by the wore sack-like things with him.



Francesco Fazio (right) holds a picture of his mother Caitlin. Dylan Thomas (above)

anaesthetise the pain. Alcohol loosens the libido and she only went with other men when she was drunk. She felt so unloved that she didn't even know how to hug her own children. I was the first child she drunken man-eater and a whore. A embraced. Now I understand that it's difficult to be a good mother when you're such an alcoholic.

My earliest memories are of volcanic rows interspersed with moments of peace. Growing up, I was afraid of the night because that's when the rows started. I'd cry in bed and I'd run out to be like a cushion between them. They'd stop because

My mother's luck was that she met a very strong man, my father, the drinking and the violence. Caitlin used to attack Dylan physically and when she first met my father she punched him on the nose. My father saved her life many times when she

ankles while she dangled in mid air. In 1972, when I was nine, my father character. Every day we'd walk said she must go to Alcoholics Anonymous or he would leave. To help he also joined. And so it was in Italy where where she began to learn how to love. My father would tell her how beautiful she was and buy clothes for her. When they were in Venice, he bought her 27 pairs of shoes. Dylan never bought her a Afterwards she walked towards me.

She remained a tempestuous about six miles along the banks of the Tiber in Rome. Once, I was sketching on a bridge. I thought my mother was behind me but when I turned round she had gone. I panicked and ran along the river, and there she was naked, in the river, her blonde hair bobbing past me. Crazy! dress and because they spent all saying: 'What a refreshing dip!' I wanted to kill her.

commitment, 24 hours a day. Our relationship as mother and son was so good that in my twenties my father said: You are a better medicine than I am.' It was then that we went through her memoirs together. That first time was terribly painful. Reading it felt as if she were telling her inner problems to a psychoanalyst. It could be so self-flagellating I'd say 'Are you sure you did this?' When she wasn't crying I was. The worst parts

Dvlan's death, and she had to be restrained with a straitjacket. I said to her 'Let's try to explain

what really happened. You've been like two different people and now you've transformed yourself. People should see the other side. I'll help you.' So we sat down, and worked on it together. After my mother died, I gave up being an assistant architect to work on this book.

Until now Caitlin has been seen

wife. I want to prove that my mother wasn't a hard woman who couldn't love but that her heart was soaked in alcohol. Part of my heart and my life is in this book. Never for a moment do I regret having Caitlin for my mother. Like Sylvia Plath, I hope she will emerge as an artist in

"Double Drink Story" written by Caitlin Thomas and edited by aren't her sexual encounters but as a dismal satellite orbiting around Francesco Fazio, is published to Helping an alcoholic is a lifetime's when she was crazed with grief at Dylan Thomas, the perpetual poet's morrow by Virago, priced £12.99



The pregnant silence

icky Butcher, one of the stars in the BBC soap EastEnders, is showing all the signs of L being a frustrated, expectant father. His pregnant wife, Bianca, will not talk to him. She wants a home birth and she is not prepared to discuss his reservations. It's her body, her baby, her birth. Indeed, so anxious has she become that she will discuss nothing about the pregnancy with him.

Meanwhile, Ricky has been staying out late at the pub and with his mates. There are suspicions of an affair. Last week, after a row, he walked out and said he wasn't coming back. It is a plot line which highlights a largely hidden phenomenon - the stress that some men experience in pregnancy and the difficulties they have in talking about it. Last week attention was drawn to another alarming indicator of strained relationships: violent attacks on pregnant women by their male partners. One third of attacks on women are said to take place for the first time when they are pregnant, doubling the risk of miscarriage, according to a report for the Royal College of Obstetricians.

Charlie Lewis, a reader in human social development at Lancaster University, has studied 100 men in transition to fatherhood. "The period was a very emotional experience for men. They felt that they should be strong while their partners were going through such a difficult time. But the problem was that for many of these men their partner is the one person who they can talk to about their emotions but because they didn't feel that they could turn to them during the pregnancy they bottled up their emotions. These feelings emerged in all sorts of strange ways."

One man became claustrophobic. "Suddenly he found he could not bear to take the bus to work any more and he had to get up half an hour early and walk to work. As soon as the pregnancy was over he got back on the bus. Another man could not eat. He didn't let on to his wife. When the baby was born, he left the hospital, went home and cooked himself the biggest fry-up ever.

"There was another case of a father who felt terribly ill all the time, so much so that the doctor gave him time off work. Again the symptoms cleared up

after the baby was born." David Bartlett of Newpin, which runs fathers' groups, says: "Men are often ambivalent about pregnancy because the conventional image of fatherhood, involving long hours at work and Research shows fathers-to-be tend to bottle up their feelings. Jack O'Sullivan explains why

the latest EastEnders story strikes a chord



Have Ricky and Bianca split up for good?

limited involvement with young children, is not particularly attractive."

He points out that pregnancy also often raises issues unresolved from a man's childhood that can contribute to them feeling trapped. "I remember one man who felt very undermined because of having had a violent, rejecting father. He feared becoming isolated in the family when the baby was born."

Adrienne Burgess, the author of Fatherhood Reclaimed, points out that one of the causes of stress for expectant fathere is that many women become pool, was shocked by news of his part-

pregnant without proper discussion with their partners. "It is hardly surprising that some of them will feel distressed and hostile. This is one of the reasons why some men may have problems bonding with a baby. And it is not fair just to treat them as selfish little boys who can't take the strain. We should take seriously that for some of these men this has happened without their consent and then they find they

have no one to talk to about it." James, 35, an engineer from Liverner's pregnancy. "It felt like the world had fallen in. In my mind I saw doors closing and my future no longer in my grasp. I had understood from her that it was safe for us to have sex and I was amazed to learn she was pregnant. I felt very let down - almost deceived.

'I have always wanted children, but I suddenly realised that I did not want to have them with her. I wanted to run away. We went through a terrible time, because I felt that I should support her if she decided to have the child. But I couldn't talk to anyone about it. I told no one in my family. I think she knew how I felt and she said that she wanted to have an abortion. But I'm sure that she would have gone ahead with the pregnancy if I had been enthusiastic.

Afterwards I felt so guilty that I couldn't leave the relationship for a year It would have been too big a blow. Eventually, however, we split up and I found the person I wanted to have children with. When she became pregnant I had absolutely no doubts. I was completely committed and happy about it."

A different problem has plagued relationships in which Paul, 40, from London, has fathered children. "I was 17 and all I ever wanted was to have a family, meet a girl, settle down. But when my girlfriend did get pregnant I started going out with new friends, hanging out in clubs, pubs and in gangs. I went right off sex with her and I never really got interested again. Before it was love. After just lust. I started living a double life. There were other women."

After five years that relationship broke down, as did the next, from which Paul now has a 12-year-old boy. "This time we moved to Scotland. I wanted a fresh start. But it was weird. The same thing happened. The bigger my girlfriend got, the more it put me off her." Once again the relationship ended. He has had little contact with the children of either relationship. His third partner bore a daughter two and half years ago. But this time Paul did not experience the same revulsion. He was getting therapy. "It helped. I realised that it all goes back to my childhood."

Speaking to these men, it becomes clear how many complicated feelings pregnancy and fatherhood raises. As David Bartlett of Newpin says: "Pregnant women chat with others and rehearse with each other the things that are happening to them. Too often expectant fathers do not have that opportunity. We need to make sure they have that chance too."

ARTS

'People ask me why I'm no longer with the band,' says one Blondie tribute star. 'They don't seem to understand I'm not Debbie Harry'

ED SHELTON ENTERS THE STRANGE WORLD OF TRIBUTE BANDS

—THE WEDNESDAY REVIEW, PAGE 12——

SNAP UP ONE OF 15 KODAK **ADVANTIX 5800 MRX CAMERAS**

The Independent and Kodak are offering 15 lucky readers the chance to win a new Kodak Advantix 5800 MRX zoom camera worth RRP £299.99. You can get closer to the action than ever before because its payerful 5X zoom lens makes it easy to get sharp pictures from a distance. With the built in Flip up Flash and red eye reduction facilities, your pictures are could look like a piece of art.

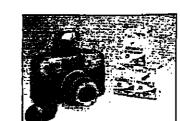
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using the Kodak Advantix 5800 MRX zoom camera?

apply. The Editors decision is final.





Fashion. What a scream!

The Clothes Show may be dead and buried on TV, but once a year it's dragged kicking and screaming to life. By Tamsin Blanchard

t's brash. It's bright. Its decibel levels are ear-splitting. Screaming teenagers love it: this is their idea of heaven. It is also most fashion editors' idea of hell. This Friday, the doors to the NEC in Birmingham will be opened by the TV presenters Jamie Theakston, Jayne Middlemiss and Tim Vincent and the BBC's Clothes Show Live monster will be unleashed.

This year, the show that has become something of an institution celebrates its 10th anniversary. It boasts more than 400 stands selling cut-price designer clothing and highstreet labels; the catwalk theatre is more like a rock stadium with almost 7,000 seats. And last year the show attracted 250,000 fashion followers with a combined estimated spending power of £10.6m. Whoever said fashion was inaccessible and elitist? The Clothes Show Live is like one huge fashion orgy. Anything goes.

The main attraction for most teenage girls, however, is not so much the idea of some Christmas shopping and party frock bargains. as the opportunity to be talent scouted by a model agency. This year's Supermodel of the World (Miss World, but for models), 16-yearold Katie Burrell, was discovered there by Models One, as was the real supermodel of the world, Erin O'Connor. All the big agencies have a stand there, including Kate Moss's agency, Storm.

"It's great for us because we always find hundreds of models." savs Paula Karaiskos from Storm. This year, Storm is holding a competition, in conjunction with B magazine, to find a cover girl.

On Friday, the trained eyes of the agency's founder, Sarah Doukas the woman who spotted Kate Moss at JFK airport - will be out on stalks. She will join her team of eight bookers, who will be at the show for the entire nine days. Over the weekend, reinforcements will be on hand. making the team 13-strong. There will also be models - there are rumours that Sophie Dahl may be there, although her fellow Storm model Carla Bruni will most certainly not be - joining in the fun: they often make the best talent scouts.

Storm's days of scouting at Clothes Show Live have paid off. They now have a long list of girls and boys who were spotted at the show and have gone on to find fame and fortune. Polly Robinson was discovered at Clothes Show Live in 1994. Now 22, her face has graced the



Bright young, fashionable things vie for the attention of the model agencies at last year's 'Clothes Show Live': many famous faces were first spotted there

pages of Italian Vogue, Marie Claire, and French Elle as well as advertising campaigns for Nina Ricci, l'Oreal, Rimmel and Vidal Sassoon. Newer additions include Adelaide Thompson, Caroline Cane, Chloe Webb. Liz Simpson and several others who are all still at school but who have the opportunity of earning

TV commercial) in their summer holidays before signing up for fulltime work. Three Storm boys -James Heathcote, James Poulton and Sid Webb - were also Clothes Show Live discoveries.

The Clothes Show Live event is also a great opportunity for a bit of

"pocket money" (up to £30,000 for a celebrity spotting. Many of the designers go, and it is a rare opportunity to buy your dress straight from the designer. Andrew Fionda and Ren Pearce of Pearce Fionda will be happy to give you some expert advice about what you should be wearing; Antoni of Antoni & Alison will be there too, offering fun and frolics and

over the weekend, Ben de Lisi will be playing shop assistant for the fourth time. "I find it very exciting and en-

service with a cheeky smile. And

lightening," he says, ear plugs at the ready. "I'm always amazed that people know who I am. And they

The first time he sold at the show, he was astonished by the queues and the fact that his stock of T-shirts sold out before the end of the second day. As well as bargain-

priced end-of-season and current stock, de Lisi will also be selling pieces designed exclusively for the show, including a "very sexy, very

tight pencil skirt", and sequined dresses. They will sell between £50 and £100.

For most of those attending Clothes Show Live, however, the real thrill is seeing a catwalk show. These are nothing like real-life shows. These are more fun, more 🚵 noisy, more brash, and more ... well. just more everything.

And if all that makes you want to go and clear out your wardrobe to make room for your new purchases. the British Heart Foundation (BHF) is inviting the public to bring their unwanted clothes with them to add to a clothes mountain that will no doubt reach monumental heights as the week progresses. The clothes will then be distributed between BHF shops and sold to raise money for the charity.

The BBC's Clothes Show Live is at the NEC from 4 to 9 December. Admission times are 9am to 6.30pm. Tickets cost £19 (Friday, Saturday and Sunday) or £14 (Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday). Tickets can be booked in advance with a credit card on 0121-767 4444

CLOTHES SHOW LIVE - THE SHOPPING HOT SPOTS

According to Antoni, the show is like a week-long office party with lots of inter-stand romance. "It's a pop experience: it's quick, it's fun and it's full of energy." he savs. "This year we have produced a souvenir piece for the year 2000." It's a T-shirt and a bag, but the designers won't say any more. Prices are "realistic".

This is the fourth year that Ben de Lisi has been showing at the event. Last year members of the public elbowed Claire Sweeney

(Linsey Phelan of Brookside) out of their way to get their hands on the merchandise. Prices from £50 for a skirt.

Ted Baker

Donald Browne of Ted Baker attends every year. "The CSL is an excellent way of meeting the customers and getting feedback,' he says. Expect to queue for logo T-shirts for men and women. Tshirts usually sell for £25 each but will be reduced to £15. There will also be aftershave on sale at the special price of £10 rather than the usual £20.

Denise Van Outen, Bewitched and Zoë Ball wear this Sheffieldbased clubwear label. The

designer Julia Gash will be at the

show. "It's a really good place to do research, meet the customer, and get reaction to the new lines," she says. Some 90 per cent of Gash's customers are young women and teenage girls who can't get enough of the label's signature Glitter Star Baby T-shirts and their kitsch and colourful dresses. Also on sale will be its "depraved" and "corrupt" logo knickers and

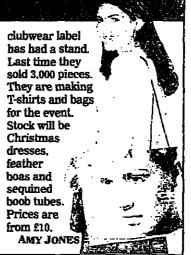
John Richmond

prices. From £5.

dresses at super knock-down

The designer might make an appearance this weekend. On sale will be this season's main line collection and a chance to have a sneak preview at a few pieces for spring/summer. The diffusion line and John Richmond denim are also available, with prices ranging from £25 for a top to £180 for a jacket.

This is the second time this



The final countdown to catwalk glory

On Friday, five young photographers will be snapping their way towards the title of The Independent/Clothes Show Live Young

Catwalk Photographer of the Year. Here we announce the finalists and publish some of their work



Calim Renton



Anna Thompson



Alex Dale, above, and Merry Brownfield, top



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Stores in their eyes

Are you Harvey Nicks chick or a Liberty belle? You may not know yourself, but the big department stores doing battle for your pounds certainly do. By Melanie Rickey

has commenced. The lines are drawn: in Knightsbridge, Marble Arch, Oxford Street and Regent Street, glittery Christmas window displays are fighting for supremacy and shoppers are poised for their yearly pilgrimage to London's shrines to consumerism. But where to go? Which store has got it all?

Or, more to the point, which store has got everything you desire or aspire to? Are you a Harvey Nichols woman? (There are at least 50,000 in the UK.) Or do you wish you were, but really end up in Miss Selfridge or Top Shop? Perhaps you are Debenhams woman? (The UK has 1.1 million.) Or does Dickins & Jones suit your tastes? The good news is that each of the five de-

partment stores we have chosen has carved out its own niche; all cater to different types of women and their fashion preferences. Harvey Nichols, for example, is known as the ultimate to live, thanks to a refurbishment of the store. store for devotees of expensive high fashion, closely followed by Liberty and Selfridges.

Indeed, no episode of Absolutely Fabulous went by without some reference to "Harvey Nicks", and with good reason, for it is truly the place to include a fashion fantasy. But it is not as Y-Dress, Wim Neels and Jurgi Persoon's, some swarming with fashion editors and real-life Edinas and Patsys. "That is a misconception," says Anna Marie Solowij, the editor of Harvey Nichols' quarterly glossy magazine. "Through research we found that our core customers are single women between the ages of 26 and 55 who work in television, film, the arts or design. I reckon most of them are in their thirties, 85 per cent of them work, and their average salary is £83,000 a year. Most important, [our customer] is not a fashion victim because she knows exactly what she wants out of fashion. In fact she's someone I'd quite like to be," she says - and who wouldn't?

In the past, Harvey Nichols woman has been a Sloane, a glamour queen, a fashion freak and a bit of an upmarket Shazza; but today she is altogether more clued-up, chic and stylish.

She generally doesn't wait to see what's on the rails," continues Solowij. "She starts mentally buying as soon as the catwalk reports for the following season appear in the newspapers. We had a waiting-list of 30 women for the grey cashmere Fendi Baguette chutch bag a few weeks

bought only eight for the store, because they cost £595 each. It was a similar story for Matthew Williamson's beaded 'snowflake' skirt, which sold out before we had a chance to put it on the rails."

Among the most popular labels in Harvey Nichols are Costume National, Ann Demeulemeester, Michael Kors, Calvin Klein mainline, Dolce & Gabbana and Givenchy - hardly the kind of overblown glamour you would immediately ex-pect from the shop. Antony Miles, head of press relations, puts its fashion success down to a careful editing process between catwalk and shop floor. "We sell only the best pieces from a col-lection – we call them the 'edited highlights' – and this saves our customers trawling through the store to find what they want."

idea of selling the highlights of directional collections, and has even given them a new place which will celebrate its 90th birthday next year. Some pundits say that the "Design Lab" on the second floor is the coolest fashion pit-stop in London, thanks to its eclectic mix of contemporary designer labels - some new and untried, such established, such as Miu Miu, Alessandro dell' Acqua, D&G, CK, and DKNY and others Selfridges call "dynamic", such as Margiela 6, Owen Gaster, Sonja Nuttall and Hussein Chalayan. Susanne Tide-Frater, the head of fashion direction, has been on a mission to separate the store into coherent fashion areas. "Selfridges is like a town where you can buy absolutely anything," she says, "but we do focus different areas. The second floor, for example, is for fashionliterate consumers, and covers everything from diffusion lines such as Philosophy and Sportmax, to lifestyle brands such as Nicole Farhi and Max-Mara. This is in addition to the Design Lab, and, of course we have Miss Selfridge and Spirit," she adds, referring to the huge area for teenage fash-

ion on the ground floor. But that is not all. On the upper levels of Selfridges they do a roaring trade in tried and tested fashion labels. The Marellas, Viyellas, Feminellas, Four Seasons and Windsmoors of this world may sound like tampon brands, but both Selfridges of sales, is the most important part of the busi-and Dickins & Jones cater to thousands and thou-ness. "Our philosophy at Debenhams is 'num-Walsh at GSM. Model: Erica at Models One London SW3, (0171-584 0011) and Leeds (0113 2048888)

he battle of the department stores after it appeared on the catwalk, but the buyers sands of women who keep coming back to buy ber one for choice and value'." says Belinda Earl, these labels because they are reliable, and do a trading director, "and we offer this through our the job for British women who, as we all know now, average a size 16, and don't have £150 to spend on a designer skirt.

Dickins & Jones is probably the best place in London for older fashion customers, and those who don't fit into the typical "fashion" bracket of a size 10-12, high-maintenance woman. It does cater to the young market, with every diffusion jeans line on the planet, and sports ranges from American designers such as Ralph Lauren, but its strong points are the lingerie department. which has amazing finds tucked away in shady corners, the shop's own label, Linea, which is well priced and offers all the key fashion trends. and the plus sizes, coats, and casual wear on the she loves and understands textiles, and appreupper floors, which take ages to walk around,

Selfridges, too, has recently cottoned on to the but are worth the schlep. "The important thing for us at Dickins & Jones is that we offer variety," says a spokeswoman. "We don't want to alienate our core clientele." Namely, the 45-65 age group. Two of the store's most successful labels are MaxMara and another, lesser known American brand, St John, which provides a version of Chanel's classic Eighties look of neat two-piece tweed suiting with trimming and gilt buttons. A particularly amusing section belongs to YSL Variation, whose garish leopard-print dresses and red-and-blue chocolate-foil-wrapping jackets are pure Blondie circa 1981. On my visit to the store it was the busiest section, next to MaxMara.

Over in Debenhams they take a totally different approach to high fashion. In fact, they don't stock a single high-fashion label, but have cleverly, some would say brilliantly, captured the diffusion line market by inviting designers to guest-design collections exclusively for them. Ben de Lisi, (BDL), Pearce Fionda, (Pearce II Fionda), and Jasper Conran, (J), capsule collections for the store have been a major draw over the last few years, and Debenhams continues to build on this success with new names. interestingly, the company report reveals that it considers its rivals to be Marks & Spencer, Bhs and Boots, not Harvey Nichols or Selfridges, and that womenswear, which accounts for 41 per cent

exclusive brand offering." To translate, this means that Debenhams develops its own inhouse lines, much like M&S and Bhs, and that its 92 stores nationwide are the only places to buy them. Their policy works: at the last count the company had 2.3 million active storecard

There is only one department store in London that hasn't broken down its customer to the nth degree, and that is Liberty. "It is definitely not an age thing at Liberty," says Angela Quaintrell, the senior fashion buyer. "It's a spirit thing. The Liberty woman is definable only by the way she dresses to please herself. She is not a sheep; ciates good design." Lovers of the offbeat and unusual in fashion flock to Liberty for its vast array of labels, which covers the Japanese crew, including Yohji Yamamoto and Issey Miyake, the English eccentrics Zandra Rhodes, Charles and Patricia Lester and Helen David, the Brit Fash gang of Alexander McQueen, Hussein Chalayan, Clements Ribeiro and YMC, and the modern Continental designers Helmut Lang and Kostas Murkudis. Far and away Liberty's most successful labels, however, fall under the lifestyle bracket: Shirin Guild, Nicole Farhi, Betty Jackson, Dries Van Noten and Wall. "We sell about 90-100 pieces of Shirin Guild a week," says Quaintrell, " it is our absolute best-seller."

Liberty is also a pleasure to shop in. The staff leave you alone, and they do cute Christmas presents such as stuffed Liberty purple frogs, and a beautiful range of own-label velvet and embroidered scarves (which are currently on special offer. buy any velvet bag and receive 20 per cent off any scarf purchase').

If you haven't worked out which department store woman you are yet, try my little trick. Look in the café of each store, and if you feel that you would fit in there, that's your store. Easy, eh? I'd better start saving up for my Givenchy coat; the coffee at the Fifth Floor Café in Harvey Nichols is divine.

Photographer: Anna Stevenson. Stylist:



Fuchsia velvet dress, £180, by BDL at Debenhams, 334-358 Oxford Street, London W1 and branches (0171-408 4444); shoes, £195, by Gina, 189 Sloane Street, London SW1



Turquoise shell top, £329, rose print skirt, £755, scarf, £135, all by Dries Van Noten, from Liberty, Regent Street, London W1 (0171-734 1234)



Selfridges slicker Black top, £260, denim pedal pushers, £160, both by Seraph, from Selfridges, Oxford Street, London W1 (0171-629 1234), and Manchester, (0161-629 1234)



Harvey Nicks chick Cowl neck jumper, £670, jacket, £1400, and trousers, £440.

Once more into the bleach

Welcome to the small time. Welcome to the cheesy, self-deluding world of the tribute band - the place in which pop finally gets to eat itself. But wait. The figures say this isn't the small time at all. This is pop's Third Way. By Ed Shelton

wo friends of mine have a novel way of attracting the attention of young women in bars. One dresses up in a sharp suit and dark glasses and sits alone near a group of girls. After 10 minutes the second one joins him, introducing himself loudly as the man from The Times, and proceeds to conduct a mock interview about the new album and the pressures of touring.

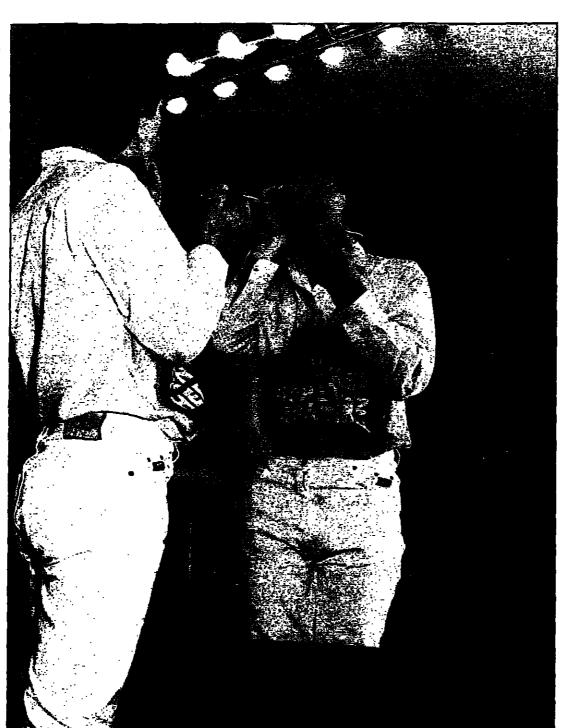
According to the growing number of musicians who make a living playing in tribute bands, the claim that this routine facilitates many fruitful introductions may be true. The public do not know the difference, they say, between a pretend pop star and a real one.

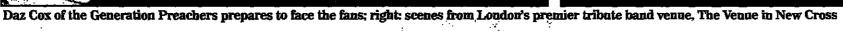
John Mainwaring, who has been on the circuit for seven years with his David Bowie tribute Jean Genie, says: "For years I could not understand it. Everyone in the room knows I am not him, but women still scream and throw their knickers. It wasn't until I saw a really good Neil Diamond tribute that I understood that there is something a little spooky about someone who is that close to the original. It's the spookiness which gets the reaction."

Donna Trafford, who plays Stevie Nicks in the Fleetwood Mac tribute band Fleetwood Bac, concurs: "We get lots of crazy fan mail: 'Stevie, Stevie, we love you.' They are totally nuts," she says. Even 25-year-old Sam Hill says she appears to get mistaken for Debbie Harry (52) when she is doing her Blondie tribute Once More Into the Bleach. "They ask me why I am no longer playing with the same band. They do not seem to understand that I am not really Debbie."

The public's willingness to suspend its disbelief in this way may go some way to explain the incredible growth in the popularity of tribute bands in the last couple of years. No longer are tribute artists regarded as little better than celebrity stalkers with a penchant for karaoke. Now, saluting your hero by forming a tribute band is regarded as both a legitimate step on the way to becoming a superstar for young musicians, or as a respectable bolt-hole for those who have given up trying with their own material.

Some testament to the new-found acceptability of this musical form of thought of being so uncool," says pantomime comes from last month's Jean Genie's Mainwaring. MTV Music Awards in Milan, the pinnacle of music fashion- the tribute market hugely. Most noconsciousness, at which a tribute ticeably, it is not just acts with worldband, the Cheeky Monkees, was wide appeal and illustrious careers booked to play at the unfeasibly cool behind them that get the tribute treat-





in the Eighties. No one would have

This respectability has expanded "Only recently has what we do be- album are deemed to be worthy of

Girls, Nice 'n' Spicy, the Brit Girls, Old

Spice, Nearly Spice and so on. And it is not just seasoned musicians looking for easy money who get involved. Often it is twentysomethings getting involved in their first band. Neil Cross, the guitarist in the ment. Now, a couple of hits and an T-Rex tribute band T-Rextasy, one of the oldest tribute bands, explains the come acceptable. What is happening tribute. Hence the 12 or so Spice Girl attractions. "We have all been in orig-

record companies just throw them halls in northern towns that looked my life in this stupid wig?" band we work every weekend. Last Christmas we played 24 gigs in 23 days. We go to Germany about four times a year. It's a good life."

Although those at the top of the Bootleg Beatles and Björn Again, can make £10,000 a night, for many

in the bin. This is much better. In our like one big bus shelter," says Liz The Venue in south London is the

get all dressed up to play half-empty halls and I would sit in the van on it is a business, and they are very for Christmas

would have been totally unacceptable tributes of recent times: Spice it Up, inal bands. It is a waste of time," he tributes life is far less glamorous. the motorway at 5am on the way in the Eighties. No one would have Spiced, the Spicey Girls, the Spiceish says. "You record demos and the "We played lots of over-sized bingo home thinking: Why am I spending

ATRIBUTE TO

Norden, ex-keyboard player in Fleet- tribute band mecca, this year bookwood Bac. "Places that you wouldn't ing acts exclusively from the 500-odd even imagine if you lived in London. currently available. Gerard Kearney, "In some towns we would go its manager, says tributes bring down really well and it would be bigger audiences than original tribute tree, such as T-Rextasy, great fun. At other times we would bands and are easier to deal with: "For 90 per cent of the tribute bands

As pioneering as you can get

well organised, whereas for original bands, being in a band is often a lifestyle choice." At a Generation Preachers gig at

The Venue last month there certainly seemed to be no shortage of punters happy with the form. "It's Friday night, I am seeing a band I know I will like in a small venue. said one. The evening began with curious fans standing soberty with arms folded in a non-committal way. waiting to be impressed by the evening's stooges. Within half an hour the necessary buttons had been pushed, and the band had been accepted as worthy recipients of the audience's transferred affections. On the dance floor groups of student types made merry to the replicated sounds of their heroes. An evening with the real thing was an unfeasibly expensive proposition. but here in a medium-sized hall in south London, dreams of a sort were coming true. The evening had a slightly surreal air, everyone knew the band could not be the real thing. but they looked and sounded right.

The real test is how the stars themselves react to their tribute. Many tributes have met, or at least had contact with their originals. "That's one of the best bits," says Fleetwood Bac's Trafford, who at every gig wonders whether Mick Fleetwood might be there. He has indeed received a letter from the lanky drummer saying he will sur-

prise them one day. Jean Genie's Mainwaring has a relationship with Bowie of sorts, although they have never met. He has used the same backing band as Bowie and the same producer for recorded work, so they have mutual acquaintances. He also leaves the Thin White Duke notes. "I played the Olympia Theatre in Dublin the night before Bowie recently and left him a note stuck to the dressing-room mirror telling him I was just one step behind," he says.

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The tribute business has the feeling of being pop's own Third Way. In the early days of pop its stars were simply performers for whom material was written by teams of professional songwriters in tin-pan alley. Then came the second generation, led by The Beatles, who demystified the songwriting process, paving the 🥄 way for millions of bands keen to write original material. Now, it is all about either sampling other people's work or replicating as closely as posgreat acts. Pop's Third Way is pop's future and, whether you like it or not.

The author plays Joe Strummer in Black Market Clash - now booking

Love's a hurtin' thing

HOW DO we place Nick Lowe these days? With care, I think. Not that he's so tough, though his songs would like to make you think his heart's firmed up round the edges. Rather, the problem is one of geographical location.

Still known as Basher, the boy (OK, a year off 50) from Walton-on-Thames no longer belts out the jovial stuff of his post-punk heyday (you'll remember "I Love the Sound of Breaking Glass"); his soul has moved far, far west, hovering around the American states of Tennessee and Texas, taking on, and making it his own, the stripped-down darkness of Hank Williams or the eerie laments of his ex father-in-law

Fittingly, Lowe had shipped over the legendary R&B songwriters Dan Penn and Spoon-

NICK LOWE/ DAN PENN/ SPOONER OLDHAM HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE LONDON

er Oldham to set the tone. Gifted white guys from Muscle Shoals, Alabama, Penn and Oldham spent their youth composing Southern soul for respected black artists who were proud to sing it, but they put over the songs themselves just as fruitfully. They gave us "I'm Your Puppet", then a grainy country-soul interpretation of "Cry Like A Baby". "Dark End of the Street" was embattled with guilt and pain; illicit love has never been so beautifully explained. For an encore they sang a deadpan version of "Spend Some Time with the Old Folks" ("they've all had

heart attacks and light strokes"). Rare stuff.

Lowe, minutes later, was something more shadowy. A cool-looking dude with a ludicrous white quiff, he opened his solo acoustic set with "In The Middle of it All", an offhand tale of calamitous desolation during which, this early, you could hear sniffing along the row. "Soulful Wind" showed his guitar dexterity, a rock-a-cha rhythm that broke to deliver a rising tornado when it had to. Lowe in relaxed, Buddy Holly voice - when he lightens up, his sensibility has a pre-Beatles, almost pre-Bill Haley shimmer.

He was joined by a tight little trio whose warmth, particularly Geraint Evans on keyboards, made "Cruel To Be Kind" and "Half a Boy and Half a Man" almost Cajun affairs; but what Lowe mainly

purveys is tribulation-hollowed blues. Tracks from his album Dig My Mood made it clear that "love's a hurtin' thing", and on "Lover, Don't Go", his voice barely rose above a death rattle. The woe and consequent stories of embittered curmudgeons (like the Cash-ready "The Kind of Man That I've Become," whose "heart's a prune/When it once was a plum") couldn't exist if the singer hadn't cared too much to begin with; and Lowe's devotionals are masterful. Creeping out early to get a jump on my copy. I'm stopped in my tracks by a delicate cascade of notes, and so is a hefty bouncer in the hall. Both of us pussyfoot back, open the auditorium door a crack, and listen to "Shelley, My Love". As it ends.

the big guy's biting his lip.

GLYN BROWN

ELLIOTT CARTER'S 90th birth-

day falls on 11 December, but the Barbican celebrated it on Saturday evening; and, from the appearance of the composer, it didn't seem they were tempting fate by being premature. Though the prospect of octogenarian composers is almost a modern commonplace. Carter remains exceptional for both physical and intellectual vigour. Those genes are worth posterity's atten-

tion, never mind the music. As it was, the notes were the focus for a large and receptive audience for the London Symohony Orchestra, and in the first half of the concert, for the Arditti String Quartet, who played the composer's Fifth Quartet, and, with pianist Ursula Oppens, his recent Piano Quintet. The evening tice achieved with grace and was billed as part of the "Amer-

CLASSICAL ELLIOTY CARTER BARBICAN LONDON

ican Pioneers" series; and these chamber pieces are as pioneering as you get these days. Analogies with human discourse lie behind many of Carter's finest scores. The Fifth Quartet, however, takes the idea of discourse further: to the dialogue of players in rehearsal, trying out fragments of musical things to come, but in no particular order.

So the piece, by a kind of sleight of hand, is its own mirror image in performance and rehearsal, theoretically a fearsome prospect but in prac-

gestures of solo strings implied some weighty argument to follow. But this only enhanced the later pleasure of finding the composer in almost skittish mood. The Ardittis played with dedicated understanding, and in the London première of the Piano Quintel, refined their powers to let Oppens exploit a spasmodically virtuosic piano part that began in its opening pages from the premise of a

Here, it was role reversal that seemed the operative analogy. From having next to nothing to say, merely uttering mild protests against arching lines of polyphony, the piano came to dominate. Matters, however, were never that easy, and the ending, a gesture that promised to begin the piece again. was reached less by consensus wit. True, the sombre opening than by agreeing to disagree.

single tone.

For Symphonia, the trippieces written during Carter's energetic eighties. conductor Oliver Knussen played up the LSO's resources for colour, not just the baying horns of the opening partita, but also the sepuichral tuba and double bassoon of the adagio tenebroso. The contrast between these points of darkness and the solo piccolo conclusion of the third and final movement, allegro scorrevole, was a kind of ascent, but not that of the usual blazing symphonic ending. Rather the gossamer textures and deft impressionism of the third movement, flowing freely across the entire sound spectrum, engaged the enraptured ear. Even at 90, Carter retains his power to surprise. and to do so rather well.

NICHOLAS WILLIAMS

BRILLIANTLY INVENTIVE AND ENTERTAINING NYO THE WOODS QUIZZICAL, SOPHISTICATED AND IRONIC...A WONDERFUL SHOW STEPHEN SONDHEIM JAMES LAPINE EARLEAN ST. WC2

A near-perfect landing

THE 21ST Huddersfield Con-temporary Music Festival concluded on Sunday with Steve Reich and Beryl Korot's Hindenbury. Drawing on images of German general who gave his name to the infamous zeppelin, an unfinished version was seen at the Barbican a year ago. This was the British premiere of the complete, half-hour piece; though it is just the first act of a "documentary video opera" entitled Three Tales, the two subsequent acts of which promise more direct confrontation with the trilogy's underlying "debate about the physical, ethical, religious and spiritual nature of ... expanding technological development".

CLASSICAL HUDDERSFIELD CONTEMPORARY MUSIC FESTIVAL

cent advances in video technology to manipulate archival footage on a single screen in highly malleable ways. Though strictly speaking a "concert performance" - lacking the rudimentary staging included at the Barbican - what we saw in Huddersfield provided more than sufficient to engage both eye and ear.

Korot's deft and individual deployment of the remarkable results of her archival researches and Reich's long-fa-With a certain irony, Three miliar ability to conjure real lowering presence of a deep Tales takes advantage of recontrapuntal drama out of sim- dominant pedal point.

ple materials activated by rhythmic repetition complement each other perfectly to produce thread to which Reich's music results that are compelling both on a moment-to-moment level and as an unfolding structure. In the first of the new scenes, for example, "Nibelung Zeppelin", footage of the airship under construction is accompanied by music based on the Anvil motif from Wagner's Das Rheingold: a response still surprising from a composer originally renowned (if not entirely accurately) for his avoidance of such emotive references. The effect of this allusion was appropriately disturbing, its amusement value caught in a sinister light enhanced by the

As a whole, Hindenburg retains a degree of narrative responds with impressively cumulative effect, though - perhaps understandably, given its function in the complete work to come - it seems to stop abruptly rather than conclude matters. The one aberration aside, all the performances in this all-Reich Town Hall programme - the lion's share taken by Ensemble Bash, and the conductor Nichola s Kok – were excellent.

In the course of the final weekend of what by all accounts has been a notably successful festival this year, I also particularly admired Music Theatre Wales' production of Harrison Birtwistle's Punch and Judy, already seen else-



Steve Reich: his music responds well to the narrative

Nicolas Hodges' noble assault on an alarmingly varied sequence of compositions for two pianists. This included the European premiere of John Adams' Hallelujah Junction, a

where, and Richard Casey and substantial 15-minute piece, the contrapuntal virtuosity and emotional complexity of which restored my faith in this composer after the disappointment of his recent piano concerto.

KEITH POTTER

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More than a fair Exchange

Manchester's Royal Exchange officially reopens next week on time and on budget. But will its artistic vision match its architectural flair? By Daniel Rosenthal

the Royal Exchange Theatre Company has heen absent from its home in the heart of Manchester Forced out by the IRA bomb that devastated the city centre on 15 June, 1996, it has stayed away for a £23m lottery rebuilding and refurbishment programme. While similar capital projects at other venues have been dogged by fundraising and construction delays, the Exchange's architects, Levitt Bernstein, have smoothly fashioned what one leading architecture critic has hailed as "the most fabulous modern theatre in Britain".

Happily, the unique theatre space has been left intact. Instead, the design has concentrated on a superb refurbishment of its surroundings and technical facilities, all of which has been matched by a declaration of intent from the artistic directors, Braham Murray, Gregory Hersov and Matthew Lloyd.

Last June, on the second anniversary of the bombing, they unveiled a 13-month season, which runs from now until January 2000. Over that period the 750-seat theatre-in-theround will offer world premières by Peter Barnes and Jim Cartwright alongside A-list revivals, including Tom Courtenay in King Lear and David Threlfall in Peer Gynt. An inaugural seven-month season in the 120-seat Studio theatre includes new plays and children's shows.

It is doubtful that any other regional company has ever committed itself so far in advance, yet, in commercial terms, the decision has already been resoundingly vindicated. Some 3,600 season tickets for the main house have been sold, bringing in more than £400,000. At the end of a troubled decade - heavy financial losses, some pedestrian programming, the bomb - the Exchange, says Lloyd, is ready "to

cut a swath through the future". Such confidence is partly explained by the fact that the Exchange maintained a strong profile during the redevelopment. Within two weeks of the bombing - which caused extensive exterior damage to the Victorian Exchange building but, miraculously, did not harm the seven-sided steel module housing the theatre - the company's mobile 400-seat, tented replica of the heatre-in-the-round had been set up t nearby Upper Campfield Market.

The remaining performances of Stanley Houghton's 1912 generationgap drama, Hindle Wakes, were can-celled but The Philadelphia Story opened as planned a few weeks later. We were the first big organisation to be up and running after the

ated a lot of affection for us." Lottery plans drawn up before the bombing were revised, and the company continued performing. "If we had not had the mobile, I don't think this company would still exist. The Arts Council would never have kept subsidising us.'

With so much of the retail space beside the Exchange still a mass of post-bomb reconstruction, the symbolic value of the company's return



At the end of a very troubled decade, the Exchange is ready to face the future

to the city centre should not be underestimated - its link with the bombing has been deliberately enhanced by the choice of opening pro-duction: the aborted *Hindle Wakes*.

The trio leading the company into the next century offer an interesting mix of age, experience and personalities. Straight-talking Murray, now in his mid-fifties, has been with the company for 30 years and has directed more Exchange productions -48 - than anyone else. Hersoy in his early forties and an artistic director for 11 years, provides bubbling enthusiasm. The 35-year-old Lloyd, appointed earlier this year, offers you calm, earnest consideration.

This triumvirate system enables administrative cares to the other two. Hersov likens the alternating current of responsibilities to jazz: "You mostly play within the structure, then solo and improvise on your own productions." This partnership sustains the

company was built, beginning in 1976 in the huge hall that was once the Early productions saw Tom Courte-

bomb," recalls Murray. "That cre- nay in the premières of The Dresser and Alan Price's Andy Capp musical, both of which - and numerous others - transferred to the West End. There were also successful seasons at the Roundhouse.

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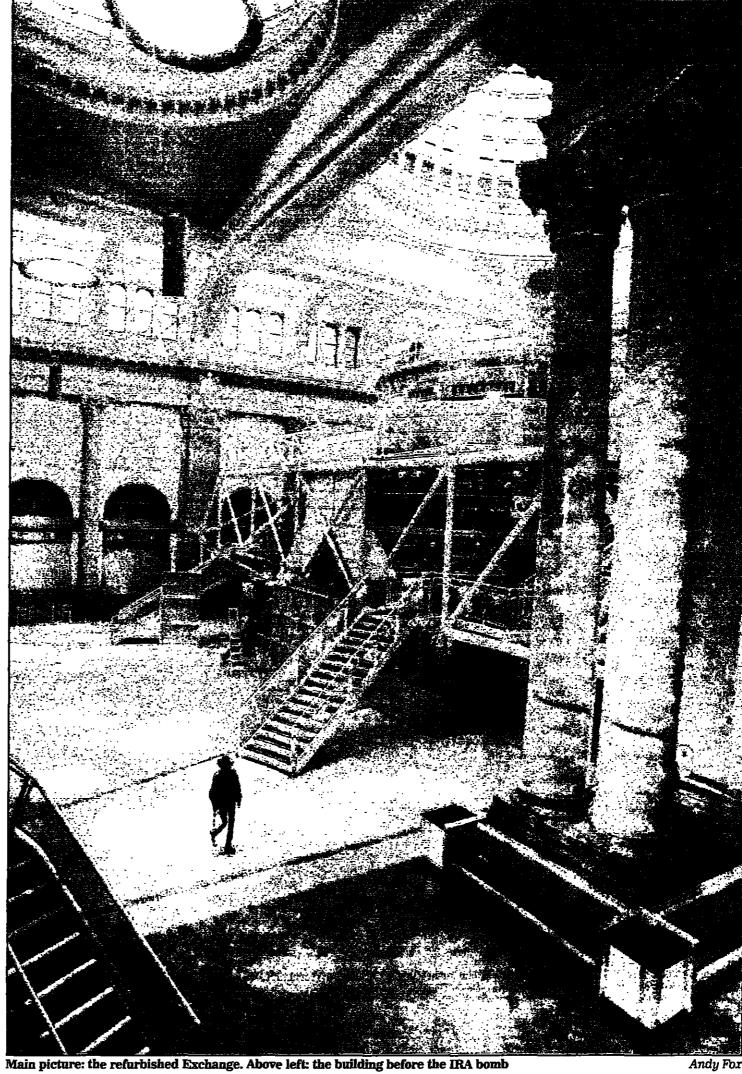
Associates who benefited from the challenge of directing in a space which, says Lloyd, "tests and exposes actors like no other venue", included young talent who swiftly emerged as some of the country's most important directors: Nicholas Hytner and Steven Pimlott (both ex-Manchester Grammar boys), Phyllida Lloyd and James Macdonald.

Ian McDiarmid, who was an Exchange associate director before he and Jonathan Kent took over the Almeida, recalls: "The weekly meetings revealed that the directors had a novel way of running a theatre: it was oligarchic rather than democratic. What I liked about the Exchange then - and I'm sure it's true now - was that it was a terrific theatre for Manchester. It produced very high-quality work and never felt in the shadow of London."

Indeed, in 1988, this very newspaper described it as "Britain's other national theatre". However, between then and 1996 it lost its way, the limelight shifting to West Yorkshire Playhouse.

The low point came in 1994. "We had been through recession, a cut in grant, and had done an adventurous season, including The Count of Monte Cristo, which lost us a fortune," explains Murray. The response was to produce Julius Caesar, Absurd Person Singular, Charley's Aunt and Look Back in Anger - a conservative selection you would expect from any provincial rep. "That was a panic season and we could have been anybody," Murray concedes. Bolder programming ensued but then came the bomb. which one critic goes so far as to say was "the best thing that could have happened" to the Exchange. It certainly forced a searching examination of artistic priorities

The results are definitely eyecatching, but so too are the ticket prices: £23 for the best seats on a Saturday, compared to £19 at Birmingham Rep, £17 at West Yorkshire and each of them to work in rehearsals £15 at Nottingham Playhouse. When knowing they can safely leave any I suggest this is pretty steep, Murray provides a characteristically pped rejoinder. Not to the shire set." His idea of sound pricing is to keep the bottom down, and push the top up. "There are an awful lot of people in this area who can pay £23 and not think about it." collaborative tradition on which the he says. "But a lot of young people used to look at the Exchange and say It's not for us'. Well, it is for them, hub of Manchester's cotton trade. and we have to price things so that



Studio cost £5 or £7. Murray believes Special, by Kevin Hood. that this "found space" in the Exchange's former set workshops will allow the company to nurture "a seedbed of creativity we have never tried to include: plays we can feel relaxed about experimenting with, without the pressure of having to fill 750 seats". Lloyd, whose critical stock is high after well received productions such as The Illusion, has

True to his word, tickets for the nabbed the first Studio show, So

"It's a good play with which to inaugurate a venue we hope will attract younger audiences," he says, "because it focuses on four young characters. The older generation is only heard in a sidelined way."

Hopes that the Studio will have a fresh, distinctive identity, and Lloyd's suggestion that "whenever we think about the Studio we become

up by innovative marketing. It is being promoted as a separate venue, rather than an adjunct to the main house, and there are plans to stage free trailer extracts at 5.30pm on weekdays, bringing people in as they leave work.

Levitt Bernstein have provided the directors with a spectacularly refurbished base. Daylight pours in through three huge domes in the from tomorrow (0161-833 9833)

a bit lighter on our feet", are backed roof, illuminating the colonnades that surround the module; plasma lighting takes over at night. I defy any visitor not to go "Wow!" when they first see the interior. Murray and Co must now ensure that audiences have the same reaction when

> Hindle Wakes' is in preview, opening next week; 'So Special' previews

The wonderful wizard of Essex

Paul Kieve has had a special effect on British drama – and now he is helping to revive the true magic of the theatre in Angela Carter Cinderella. By Dominic Cavendish

THERE IS a moment early on in the National's staging of Haroun and the Sea of Stories when Nabil Shaban, who plays the arch-fabulist, the Shah of Blah, reaches into his mouth and produces one brightly coloured ribbon after another. Of all the tricks that the illusionist Paul Kieve has brought to productions, this, the oldest in the book, is hardly the most stupendous. But it defines the quality that has directors pounding at his door, a seemingly endless supply of effects, each with the capacity to tell a story like nothing else on earth.

Only an endless supply will do right now. Kieve has been in constant demand ever since he bid farewell to his ocean-going magic double-act, The Zodiac Brothers, in 1991, and landed a job at the Theatre Royal, Stratford East, helping Ken Hill turn HG Wells's The Invisible Man into a special-effects romp that beat a path straight to the West End. At 31, he is now unrivalled in a field of his own devising. This season, he's had a hand in the witchcraft in Into the Woods at the Donmar, assisted with a grisly dismemberment in Arabian Nights at the Young Vic and put body and soul into the keenly anticipated co-produc-tion between Improbable Theatre and Neil Bartlett, An-

Lyric, Hammersmith



the spirit of Victorian panto will arise from the theatre's wings, beyond muttering about a neglected technique known as "the black art". ("Put it this way: it involves using very little light.")

This commitment to concealment is central to a benign theory about enchantment (you hesitate to call it a philosophy; gela Carter Cinderella, at the earthness that shudders at any Jekyll at the RSC; casting a hal- Phelim McDermott, and Lee smith, London (0181-741 2311)

The softly spoken member of gravitas.) "If you tell people that hucmogenic spell over the ENB the inner Magic Circle won't be you're going to do something in hit Alice in Wonderland; makdrawn on the means by which a magical way, you have to carry that through," he says. "I remember being very disappointed as a child, being taken to see Peter Pan and seeing the wires."

The determination never to disappoint child or adult shines through in his slick, albeit lotech, work. His less trumpeted credits include transforming he has an Essex-bred down-to- Simon Russell Beale into Dr guiding stars - Julian Crouch, the Lyric Theotre, Hammer-

ing a magician of Bernard Cribbins for La Grande Magia at the RNT; and causing the head of the French body artist Orlan to stand disembodied on

an ICA table. It comes as no surprise to learn that "it's not been an looks certain to have a ball. easy journey" getting Angela Carter Cinderella up and running. Improbable Theatre's previewing, opens tomorrow of

who met Kieve when the latter consulted his puppetry expertise while working on the stage version of Roald Dahl's The Witches. "This is the first time where people won't always know what's happening." As always with Improbable, the risk of disaster is part of the thrill, but there are underlying affinities that should create a coherent whole, even as they complicate the audience's suspension of disbelief. There's an uncynical desire to provoke

Simpson - have risen to promi-

nence over the past three years

with a series of shows that take pride in showing you how

its done. "We've always used

magic that's declared to the

audience," explains Crouch,

wonder, a wish to go back to theatre's roots and to revisit the time when stage magicians such as Georges Méliès first flirted with the tricksy possibilities afforded by cinema, and a hunger to explore the darker side of myth and magic. Kieve is flying off after tomorrow's opening night to LA, elicits strong performances but the honours are stolen by Lee Ingelby as Trev who can

to start work on a multi-milliondollar Broadway show for Disney. Whether it goes horribly wrong or delightfully right, he

ture a moment with blissful 'Angela Carter Cinderella', now comic timing harnessing Hime's terrific line in bathos. It is automatically assumed

The future is red, white and blue

REVIEW

CHOICE

ROYAL COURT UPSTAIRS

LONDON

"should" deal with race. B22

places this in a wider context

by focusing on a different kind

of identity in Ranjit Khutan's

in nostalgia. The past tunnels

through to the present as one

CINEMA AUDIENCES devour new writing - the alternative, after all, would be incessant remakes and re-runs. Yet in theatre, new writing is deemed off-putting at best. Add the word "young" and you have a recipe for patronising attitudes and no box-office. So it is a genuine thrill to discover avowedly sentimental study Choice, the Royal Court's Young Writer's Festival with classy direction, cracking acting, hot scripts and, in one

fill entire scenes with virgin

(why?) that Asian writers

of the two lads returns home after years at university. case, the discovery of the year. The Crutch, by 23-year-old Sexuality is generally a long Ruwanthie de Chickera, is a way down the list in debates about racial identity and stern-eyed tale of a woman's journey from desperation on a Khutan's tender corrective is timely and sweetly handled. It Sri Lankan street, an example of the festival's wide reach. At is unfortunate that the evening's finale handles simithe other end of the scale is 20lar subject matter and where year-old Ed Hime's tragicom-Khutan shows promise, the edy About the Boy in which stunning Four by 23-year-old father and sons Nev, Trev, and Kev try to sort out their feel-American Christopher Shinn is the work of a seriously gifted ings about women; a sort of playwright. Without a doubt, men behaving gauchely. Hime this is the debut of the year. handles hidden pain with a Shinn deploys the simplest lovely light touch, his comedy of means to the greatest poshas real zip and he knows exsible effect. He knows that actly when to cut away from a what's not said on stage is as scene. Director Rufus Norris

important as what is said. With the right structure - and thus tension - silence on stage is pregnant with possibility adolescent yearning or puncand words unspoken. Shinn's structure is so astonishingly assured that he can charge up atmospheres and tensions

with breathtaking economy. The balance of the play is so 5000)

remarkable that although it pivots absolutely around what it is to be American – from going to the movies or driving on the open road to the colour of your skin and your sexual choices - you never feel you are listening to "issues" because everything flows through interlocked, evolving characters drawn with heartbreaking compassion. A nervous young white kid meets up with a married black professor who he has met via the Internet and takes off on a Fourth of July trip. Meanwhile the man's smart-mouthed daughter juggles the demands of an unseen mother and absent father while giving good phone to an uppity white boylriend.

Shinn's real subject is emotional fragility - a daughter's need for love as she fights to break out of her cocoon of self-confidence, the boy's struggle for emotional and sexual self-acceptance - all of which simply glows in Richard Wilson's mesmerising production which features quite astonishingly detailed performances from a dynamite cast Shinn's radiant, moving play has yet to be produced in the US. Thank God that British theatre is still able to take risks that can pay off as hand-

somely as this. DAVID BENEDICT In rep to 19 Dec (0171-565

Salary is not the only fruit

IN THE 1970s classic "Big Yellow Taxi", Joni Mitchell sang: "You don't know what you've got till it's gone." This principle can be applied to numerous things in life, including the undervalued world of employee benefits.

Many people receive valuable benefits as part of their remuneration package, such as a pension, life cover and private medical insurance. It is possible to implement such arrangements privately. but the cost can be prohibitive.

This was brought home to me recently with a series of meetings I had with Rebecca. 33, who has been a nurse with the NHS all her working life. Rebecca was considering accepting a new post in a private nursing home, which offered her a marginally higher salary than her current NHS post, but no additional pension benefits. What would it cost to replace the pension benefits she enjoyed with the NHS?

As an NHS employee she is a member of the NHS Superannuation Scheme. which provides her with an excellent pension scheme as well as death in service life cover. The cost to Rebecca of these benefits is 6 per cent of her gross salary. In reality, the cost of providing these benefits is much higher (estimates put it in the region of 20 per cent of overall pays, with the balance funded by the NHS. I explained that as the

private nursing home in question did not have an occupational pension scheme, she would need to start paying into a personal pension. This is a different type of retirement scheme than she enjoyed with the NHS, and as such, the two are not directly comparable.

The NHS Pension Scheme is a final salary pension scheme. which means the retirement benefits are predictable, based on a formula involving length of service and eventual salary level. With a personal pension, retirement benefits are less certain and will depend on factors such as investment returns over the period to retirement, and annuity rates

at the point of retirement. The amount an individual is permitted to contribute to a personal pension is governed by age and earnings. At 33, Rebecca may contribute up to 17.5 per cent of her new salary of £19,000. There is a difference however, between what is permissible and what is

I explained to Rebecca that to provide a level of income in retirement similar to what she

affordable.

THE FIXERS



BRUCE

would enjoy from the NHS, she would need to consider contributing at a higher level of her salary than the 6 per cent required by the NHS scheme.

To establish how much, I undertook some basic calculations. These can be approximated using basic planning assumptions for future levels of inflation. investment return and Rebecca's earnings growth.

Given the length of time to Rebecca's retirement, even small changes in any one of these factors can have a substantial impact on the eventual results. I calculated that Rebecca would need to contribute in the region of £270 per month into a personal pension, with this level of investment escalating each year by 2.5 per cent. This is just below the maximum percentage of salary she is currently permitted to contribute at her age under Inland Revenue restrictions.

When this level of pension funding was set against her prospective new salary level, we concluded that Rebecca would be in a financially worse position than she enjoyed with her current NHS post.

Rebecca contacted me a few weeks later, and explained that she had decided not to pursue the post at the private nursing home, but had subsequently been offered and accepted a higher paid post at another NHS hospital. This meant that as well as an increase in her salary she was able to continue with her membership of the

NHS Superannuation Scheme. The moral of this tale is that if you are contemplating a change in jobs, make sure you analyse the worth of both your existing benefits package, and that offered by your new employer. To focus exclusively on the different salary levels can sometimes be deceptive.

James Bruce is a senior financial planner at Corporate and Personal Planning, a firm of independent financial advisers(01206 853888)



An investor can predict how a share will perform in the same way as a punter can assess a horse's chances of success

Study the formbook

overs of the turf will tell you that the knowing which horse will win the 2.30 at Chepstow is to study the form book. If you know the horse's trainer, jockey and form, then factor in the going, you have a better than evens chance of winning at least some of the time. The same holds true for determining which in-

vestment to pick. The fund management company is the equivalent of the trainer, and its record in both good times and bad forming currently, and with markets in turmoil, a good track record in such times is more important than doing well in a stable rising market.

Volatility relative to other funds can also indicate whether the fund is likely to mirror or to buck trends. This is measured using complex formulae based on the fund's performance relative to sector averages. Past form is useful to study, but, as with the equine equivalent, has to be considered carefully. Some years ago, a small insurer suddenly showed up as having the top per-

Investing in the market is much like betting on the horses, and the same rules for success apply, says Andrew Couchman

forming property fund, albeit at a time when property was doing particularly badly, and everyone wanted to know why. The rather embarrassed insurer had to admit that its fund was too small to hold any property, so it had remained in cash. That explained why it was the only fund not to fall in value. It was the equivalent of the 100/1 outsider Foinavon winning the Grand National in 1967 can be a good starting-point. The when most of the more fancied going is how the markets are per- horses fell - and just about as unlikely to recur.

To the skilled investment pundit, however, it is the jockey that can be the decisive factor. Just as having Frankie Dettori in the saddle is no guarantee of success, so a top fund manager need not necessarily mean a winning fund, but the ability to think out the right strategy, pick the appropriate stocks and adjust over time can lead to winning long-term performance. In today's markets, good investment managers have the opportunity to make or break their reputations.

The final factor to consider is the always. Mr Burren says: "The danfund's handicap. The extra weight ger comes when the manager's that it may carry is not measured in new role is different from their old pounds, but in the fund's charges. Whereas tracker funds that require little day-to-day management may not mean that they will be as suchave very low charges, actively managed funds charge more. Unless the fund can consistently beat a tracker, though, such a "handicap" is not worth paying.

So how can the average investor

the right money on the right borses? Cheltenham-based firm of inde- be invaluable. pendent financial advisers, Warwick Butchart Associates, there are form yourself. Leading companies two routes to take. The simplest is advertise in The Independent, to let an investment specialist do it for you. He warns, though, that a fund manager will sometimes change his or her investment strategy, which can call into question how well their fund will do in the future. And when a manager moves to another company, sometimes that can revitalise a flagging fund, but not available to individual investors.

at managing one type of fund does cessful at managing another."

Most fund management companies now actively court leading IFAs, explaining through seminars. newsletters and one-to-one meetings their current investment thinkdecisions. At times of great market you do your homework first. According to David Burren, of a turbulence, such an inside track can

The alternative is to study the especially if their fund performance is good, and prices of individual funds can be tracked daily. Details of funds are set out in managers' key features documents, while many produce regular investment updates, although these are usually targeted at advisers and may not be

The Internet is also fast becoming a source of information. Earlier this year, Autif (the Association of Unit Trusts and Investment Funds) launched a website; others to look at include Interactive Investor. Micropal, Reuters and Trustnet. and many fund management groups have their own sites.

Betting on the horses may have the advantage of immediacy and the thrill of the race to keep punters happy. Its techniques, though, can be just as successful in choosing which unit or investment trust OEIC, Pep, life or pension fund to invest in for the long term, provided 4 weigh up all these factors and place ing and justifying their investment that, like the hardened gambler,

> Warwick Butchart Associates: 01242 584144: for a comprehensive list of independent financial advisers near you, call IFA Promotion on 0117-971 1177.

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It's time to make leaseholders feel they're kings of the castle

Landlords simply have too much power over their tenants. By Karen Woolfson

flats without having to prove thirds to a half. that the landlord was in any way at fault, according to a new government consultation document. The Government's initiative comes as leaseholders campaign for changes to leg-islation, which many claim allows landlords to exploit their

Among the proposals outlined in the consultation document is a relaxation of restrictions to the right of flat Department to consult on the owners collectively to buy their introduction of a new type of freehold. At present, for buildings to qualify for enfranchisement, no more than 10 per cent of floor space must be nonresidential. This disqualifies smaller blocks, where the ground floor may be laid out as shops. The Government proposes to lift this to 25 per cent.

It is also proposed that the "residence test" - whereby at least half the enfranchisement group must have occupied their flats as principal dwellings in the 12 months before the date when the initial notice is given – simply be applied from the date when that initial notice is given. Alternatively, would-be

enfranchisees will be required

only to have been living in their

months out of five years, rather

LEASEHOLDERS COULD be tenants who can call for col- ment that takes a strong lead given the right to take over the lective enfranchisement could and makes a powerful stand on anagement of their block of also be dropped from two-Other proposals include:

> m regulating the activities of property managers, including the selection of contractors, and improving the security of tenants' funds: controls to ensure landlords provide effective insurance

> cover, stamping out the practice of "placing" insurance to max-■ the Lord Chancellor's tenure for flats, called "commonhold", which would give flat

owners the individual owner-

ship of the property on which their home stands; options to cut down on the arguments over the price of buying a freehold, avoiding the need for expensive professional advice;

a "no fault" right for leaseholders to take over management of a block without buying the freehold. To qualify, the non-domestic proportion might be limited to 10 per cent, rather than the 25 per cent proposed for enfranchisement.

Terence Michael, spokesman for the Flatowners Network, says: "I welcome the direction the Government is flat for a period totalling 18 moving in, but the document wastes time on technicalities, than three years in the last 10. It is turgid to read and fill of un-The proportion of "qualifying" certainties. I want a govern-

crucial issues. The consultation paper suggests they are sitting on the fence."

However, Mr Michael says the primary focus should be on "regulating the new breed of leasehold landlord managers" whether or not they have collectively bought their freehold (known as "enfranchisement") or not.

Mr Michael also points out that the Government's emphasis on simplifying the enfranchisement process must go hand in hand with regulating what happens after this takes place, otherwise it is likely to face a huge backlash in the future. "It's very shortsighted. People with a house that enfranchises are OK, but flat-owners who enfranchise face a whole range of risks they were exposed to with their former nightmare landlord, such as inflated service charges. Leasehold landlord managers. and the property company they run, must be regulated."

Peter Haler, head of the Leasehold Advisory, says: "I'm pleased with the document, although I had hoped for something more solid."

Mr Haler also believes leasehold managers must be subject to strict regulations. whether or not the property has been enfranchised. He says leaseholders must be

dard structure, which includes setting up a company designed specifically for this purpose. He adds: "The company that leaseholders set up to run the block must give each individual the same rights to get re-dress and follow strict procedures for holding annual general meetings and handling

disputes, for example, "It would ensure complete transparency of all expenditures and everything else. The more you can regulate and write down, the fewer problems there will be, because everyone will know where they stand and what their money is being spent on."

In order to prevent new leasehold managers from stepping into the shoes of former landlords, leasehold groups and Mr Haler call for criminal prosecutions, fines and the removal of directors of selfmanaged companies if they fail to manage according to the rules. Tight regulation should apply in the same way to managing agents and anyone else considered to be assuming the role of a manager.

"I would like to see a regulator and ombudsman rolled into one," says Mr Haler.

the Financial Services Act as an example for legislation covering leases. This forced all independent financial advisers to apply and pay for a licence legally obliged to follow a stan- in order to ply their trade,

which covers selling investment products. Property is usually the biggest investment a person makes in a lifetime, yet the management of a leaseholder's biggest asset is still not regulated, which is an unpardonable anomaly in British law: This country's two million leaseholders, whose property is worth many billions of pounds. need to be given the protection they deserve, and only an official regulator can provide this. Codes of conduct in this industry only scratch the surface, and those that exist are often ineffective.

Decisive, clear-cut, effective rules that are open to as little interpretation as possible need to be firmly enshrined into law. Campaigners argue that to aid clarity words such as "reasonableness" and "due regard" should be eradicated from every description in the regulations.

Leaseholders are asking the Government to sharpen its focus, taking effective action rather than creating complexities to hide behind, to prevent further abuses of the system a few years down the line.

Karen Woolfson welcomes The Government could take comments for her column: Write to: Homebaltles, c/o Nic Cicutti, Personal Finance Section, 'The Independent', 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf London E145DL Karen regrets she is unable to reply

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THE WEDNESDAY REVIEW The Independent 2 December 1998

It's out with the old...

Private homes might be able to offer care for the elderly more cheaply than councils. But is it the best way forward? By Paul Gosling

dential home is about to be demoiished. It will be replaced by residential care housing, built to a higher standard and run by the Notting Hill Housing Group instead of Islington Borough Council. A similar transformation is happening across much of the country.

For years residential care and local authorities as Cinderella services, badly managed, often em-ploying poorly qualified staff, with buildings falling into disrepair. Frank Dobson, Secretary of State for Health, earlier this week moved to counter this situation with plans for national standards and tough inspection processes.

Because the councils and central government have under-funded the service, the homes have often had empty beds, while nearby hospitals suffered bed-blocking, full of patients who would be more suitably cared for in nursing homes.

Change is being brought about through the often reluctant acceptance by councils that residential care can be achieved more costeffectively by outside bodies. Recent months have seen a rash of transfers. In April, Surrey County Council announced that it had signed the biggest-ever social services Private Finance Initiative (PFI) deal, when it agreed to hand over 17 care homes to Anchor Trust, one of the country's largest housing assocations, specialising in working with elderly and disabled residents. About 840 residents have been transferred, along with 700 council staff. Anchor has pledged to take on a fur-

ther 140 care staff. Refurbishing and rebuilding the homes is costing Anchor about £29m. The purchase has been funded from Anchor's reserves, and any them in the not-for-profit sector."

ISLINGTON'S PENNEFATHER resi- income generated in the future -Surrey is guaranteeing to purchase 80 per cent of beds - will go towards further investment.

Another radical Conservativecontrolled council, Westminster, is also well advanced with a major PFI residential homes scheme. The Delaware Resource Centre in Paddington is being demolished, to nursing homes have been run by be replaced by a new residential care and nursing home.

Westminster is delighted with the arrangement. "The old home was a typical Fifties built institution." said Terry Cotter, the borough's head of social services contracting. "It did not reach [current] registration standards. We wanted a brand new, state-of-the-art home in its place.

We only have two mursing homes [in the borough] and we have a lot of people who need nursing care. So we had to place people out of the borough, which has not been popular with residents or with [council] members. Now we will have local nursing home care."

Westminster's partner is the private contractor Haven Healthcare. Islington and Surrey, are preferring to contract with established housing associations. English Churches, Sanctuary and John Grooms which is acting as adviser to Notting Hill on the Pennefather development - are all keen to take on residential care transfers from local authorities.

deals in the pipeline," said Roger Mortimer, social services finance policy officer of the Local Government Association. "A number of authorities are actively preparing schemes. Many authorities feel that if they can't own their own residential homes they would prefer to see

"There are a number of further



Many other councils, such as Increasing numbers of elderly people are living in modern, purpose-built homes

Dylan Bryden

Stephen Duckworth, a policy of- ket. Although they are competing ficer with the National Housing Federation, which represents housing associations, agreed. "For housing associations with a strong interest in the elderly end of the housing spectrum it is a natural extension of their business development. Given that the PFI model is being adopted by local authorities it is natural for registered social

landlords to be the partners. Many councils would prefer them to the private sector." Mr Duckworth added that hous-

against other PFI proposals such as school redevelopments, their guaranteed income streams make them attractive borrowers.

Nick Salisbury, head of the PFI unit at Barclays Bank, agreed. "Specialist housing groups are bidding for residential homes," he said. "Local authorities realise that they can't afford to bring their residential homes up to standard, and housing associations are a natural partner for them."

But the private sector is also in

Investors were now much more willing to purchase the expensive fixed assets under a sale-and-leaseback arrangement, leaving small businesses able to run their own

residential and nursing homes. This view was endorsed by Richard Ellert, chief executive of Nursing Home Properties, a leading company in the sector.

"The total number of beds has fallen by 2.5 per cent since its peak two years ago, but occupancy rates are much higher in purpose-built homes," he said. "There is a two-tier ing associations are also in a good a strong position to take advantage market, with new homes replacing surely it is the man with a reputation position to raise finance in the mar- of the market, Mr Salisbury added. old homes. There are 7,000 beds a

year being built, and 15,000 a year being closed."

Mr Ellert added that development of new nursing and residential homes would not solve the NHS's bed-blocking crisis. Only amalgamating NHS and social services' budgets for care for the elderly would solve that problem, he argued. Loud and repeated noises from Frank Dobson make it clear that releasing elderly patients from hospitals and transferring them into residential and nursing care is a priority.

If anyone can ease the log-jam,

IN BRIEF

THE GOVERNMENT has broadly accepted the accountancy profession's proposals for improving regulation. Publishing a consultation document last Monday, Ian McCartney, Minister of State at the Department of Trade and Industry, said he believed that the creation of a framework based on an independent foundation could deliver public confidence. While he favoured a non-legislative approach for the time being, he warned that the structure would allow for the imposition of a statute-based system if it did not work.

HIGH-TECHNOLOGY and other knowledge-based companies are risking the millions of pounds invested in their research and development programmes through not paying sufficient attention to their intellectual property rights, according to research published by Taylor Joynson Garrett, the City law firm. The survey, "All in the Mind: Investing in Technology and Life Sciences", produced in conjunction with London Business School, found that only just over half of companies regularly reminded employees not to disclose details of their work until intellectual property issues had been safeguarded. and that more than a third acknowledged that they did not have a complete set of contractual documentation to protect these assets.

THE AUDITING Practices Board has published a consultation paper to examine the "complex issues" surrounding auditors' roles in reporting on fraud. It reflects an awareness of the need to balance the consequences of increased regulation with encouraging an environment of commercial success.

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Dressing to impress

What to wear to work is a real dilemma in the Nineties. Should you be smart? Casual? Both? Many companies are unclear, but one thing is certain - it pays to get it right. By Kate Hilpern

ou really do appear to be what you wear, or so recent research seems to imply. Apparently, 90 per cent of our opinion of a person is formed within the first 20 to 30 seconds of first meeting them. In the world of work, the implications of such snap judgements are frightening.

But dressing with the intention of impressing the boss, colleague or client, is no longer a simple matter of donning a smart suit and a confident air. The sheer variety of dress codes found in Nineties workplaces has made the choice of workwear a thoroughly perplexing issue. Traditional images are being turned on their heads, as companies such as publishing houses, once famed for espousing the casual, even dowdy look, now prefer a more corporate image, whilst conservative organisations, such as banks, are opting for a more relaxed look.

The question as to which dress code to adopt is made all the more confusing by conflicting reports as to which style wins out. Last month's survey by Adecco, the largest recruitment company in the world, found that 75 per cent of offices now operate a "smart" dress code, yet other studies, carried out by individual image consultants, found just the opposite. Given such confusion, how can one hope to get a clear picture of what outfits are required in today's workplace?

Diana Mather, author of Image Works for Women, outlines some of the wardrobe planning options available to a new recruit. "If you're lucky," she says, "your employers may recognise such difficulties and offer you the services of their very own image consultant. But if an image consultant isn't available, then the first rule is to avoid basing your working wardrobe on your impressions of the companies' overall image. Media-based jobs, for example, are often assumed to carry a casual dress code. However, the reality is that many staff in this field are actually required to dress fairly formally because of the amount of contact they have with the public."

For some office workers, the contradictions posed by conflicting dress codes are almost impossible to resolve. Temps have a particularly hard time of it, maintains Sarah Eldoori of Office Angels. "They suffer a double-edged sword because they are not only expected to project the image of the company but also that of their agency. You might, for instance, belong to a temping agency which stipulates no trousers, only to discover that they've given you an assignment within a company where no one is out of leans." Fiona Dobson, manager of the recruitment agency, Working Wonders, agrees. "Temps need to be insistent that their agencies discuss with them the details of each and every organisa-



The dress code for work used to be so simple - smart and formal

ing up a flexible wardrobe." But this than they ever have about formal women in business-wear. So while does not mean you have to spend all your wages on clothes - you just

And if you thought organisations such as Color Me Beautiful exist only to tell affluent women whether they best suit autumnal colours, or the more coral look, think again, says Mary Spillane, Color Me Beautiful's ple at PA level who want practical, hard advice because British people seem particularly unsure about how to dress in the workplace. They can slob down and dress up pretty well, but the middle ground is a grey area. They don't seem to be aware of the basic rule that the more skin you show, the less authority you have."

have to go for more than one style.

According to Judi James, author of Bodytolk and adviser to the Industrial Society, one of the most confusing pieces of jargon relating to Nineties dress codes is the term "smart-casual", "More people ask tion's dress codes, as well as build- me for advice about smart-casual

wear. I recently trained a man who truly thought it meant being both at once, so he wore a formal waistcoat and trousers with a Grateful Dead T-shirt underneath," says James. Charlotte Ducat, a City-based PA, is that casual is in some ways more restrictive than a basic suit."

Meanwhile, Rob Briner, organisational psychologist at Birkbeck College in London, points to another occupational hazard of "dressing down" versus suit or uniform. When a company goes casual, it becomes clear who has the money to spend on an impressive wardrobe, and who doesn't.

According to Judi James, these discrepancies often hit women hardest. "Men are much more tribal than

m

men can copy their colleagues by swapping their shoes for loafers but keeping the tie, the women are totally in the dark. Consequently, it's easy for them to dress down too much, thereby giving the appearalso dislikes the term. "There's a ance of a lower status than they had long list on our company notice intended." This is extremely prevaboard stipulating what smart-casu-lent in companies which have director. "There's a rapid rise in peo- al excludes, such as sneakers, T- "dress-down Fridays". "In those shirts, jeans, very short skirts or cases, people don't even have time sloppy-looking trousers. The result to get used to what others are wearing. They're just thrown in at the deep end at the end of every week, and the fact is that you never know who you are going to meet, even on a Friday." She advises that secretarial staff would do well to ask personnel for guidelines on clothing and to be wary of letting a professional

image disappear altogether. No wonder uniforms are more popular than ever. In fact, Barclays Bank has gone one step further, offering their staff a range of fashionable "corporate wear".

Spokesperson Yasmine Chouduray claims that Barclays has successfully addressed the two down-sides to uniforms. "Uniforms can result in the employee feeling anonymous, and they can also be unflattering." Chouduray explains. "But since we began to offer a wide variety of trousers, skirts, dresses and shirts in a range of different materials, designed by Jeff Banks, we overcame these problems." The result is that even the staff who aren't required to wear the "corporate wear" are opting to do so. "It makes getting up in the morning far less stressful,"

agrees secretary Rachel Smith. But for those of us left struggling to understand a new dress code, Judi James offers one fail-safe golden rule. "When in doubt, opt for overdressing rather than under-dressing because looking smart can't do you any barm. In the meantime, let's just hope that employers start realising what a confusing message they are

Permission to tell jokes, sir?

approaches the bar and I start grinding my teeth.

"Evening, guv," says Mike, and, as usual, raceives no response. Mike grins and buries his nose in his lager. Beardman arrives. "Hello," I say. "What can I

get you?" I've tried every way I can think of to circumvent his next sentence but, as it's probably the only thing he says to anyone all day, or maybe because it takes such an effort of will to speak to a relative stranger like me in the first place, nothing is going to stop him getting the full sentence out. I've tried "Hi there, the usual?" and even Hello, pint of lager and lime and a slimline bitter lemon, is it?" but all I ve had in return is "Thaat's roight. A point of laager and loime and a zzlimloine bidder lemon, please." It's enough to drive a girl to distraction.

I've been suffering a bit from literalness all week. Or perhaps its just that doubleshift tiredness has changed my delivery, so that people can't tell I'm joking. In the City, Graham, who is

the head of unit in the small merchant bank where I'm working at the moment, suffers both a humour bypass and a bit of an empire-building complex. That, I think, is why he won't use his dictating machine, but requires me to come in and sit by his desk with a pad on my knee pretending to take dictation. On Thursday, I was spreadsheeting for Malcolm. who had to get some proposal about a potential plastics investment in by lunch time. when Graham rang. "Are you busy?" "Very," I said, "I'm just doing my nails." "Oh." he said. "Can you come in? I've got some letters." "Sure." I said. "I'll be through in 10 minutes. I've just got something urgent

Eight minutes later. I arrived at his desk with my Berol Speediwrite and my Niceday spiral-bound to find him sitting with his fingers clasped over a pursed mouth, specs glittering. "Hello," I said, fishing a chair from another desk and settling on Waited, pen poised expectantly. Started scribbling as he started talking, stopped quite quickly as I realised that he was addressing me rather than a client. "How are your nails?" he said. Thinking that we were still sharing my rather feeble joke. I waved my

to finish up.

'Lovely, aren't they?" Graham stood up. Started pacing up and down. His colleagues, my other bosses.

gnawed stubs at him and said



THE TEMP

dropped their pens, raised their heads from their knuckies, put their phone receivers to their chests and started watching. "I don't expect," he said, his voice rising a decibel with each syllable, "To ask for your attention only to be told that you're doing your manicure on the firm's time. You are paid to work and I WILL NOT HAVE IT!".

I dropped my pen, scrabbled around to retrieve it and stuttered "But Graham, I was -" "NO EXCUSES!" shouted Graham, and the people behind the glass screen with the map of the world on the wall came out to look. "If you want to spend your time doing beauty treatments, train as a beautician." "Graham, I was joking." "Joking?" His head snapped back like a velociraptor's and he eyed me sideways. "Yes." "How joking?" "You asked me if I was busy and instead of saying that I was I told you I was doing my nails. It was only a joke.

He sat down. "How is that funny?" "Um, well it wasn't a very good joke. It was just one of those off-the-cuff things you say." And instantly regret, I thought. "Well," said Graham, "I don't call that much of a joke myself. I'd be grateful if you'd confine your jokes to outside office hours in future. Now. Are you ready to take some dictation?" "No," I started, then changed my mind. "Of course I am," I said

meekly, "Sorry." Beardman begins his sentence with a couple of throat-clearings and some "arr-urr" noises. I catch Mike's eye and can't resist a small tease. "Don't tell me." I say, "it's a Kahlua and grechartreuse and a Baileys chaser, isn't it?"

Beardman stops, looks suspiciously at me, clears his throat again and says "No. A point of laager and loime and a zzlimloine bidder lemon, please." Then he makes a tutting noise, turns to Mike and says "I don't know. You'd have thought I'd have been coming 'ere long enough for 'er to at least know thaad."

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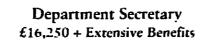
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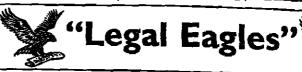
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Mix Traelve Monkeys with Four Weddings and a Funeral, and you get Maria Ripoll's mainly dreadful Anglo-Spanish comedy. Henshall stars as a dumped boyfriend transported back in time Director: Tamara Jenkins by some mysterious Spanish dustmen. As doney as it sounds, but a lot less fun. West End: ABC Piccadilly, Odean Kensington, Odean Mezzanine, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Virgin Fulham Road

THE NEGOTIATOR (15) Director: F Gary Gray

Starring: Samuel L Jackson, Kevin Spacey, JT Walsh

Two of modern cinema's current favourites go head to head in Gray's thrilling drama about situation of his own. Originally written for Fulham Road Sylvester Stallone, the script has a predilection for lunk-headed swearing that sounds uneasy in the mouths of such articulate, rhetorical performers, but it doesn't disrupt the wonderfully louche chemistry between them. West End: ABC Baker Street, ABC Tottenham Court Road, Hammersmith Virgin, Notting Hill Coronet, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Marble Arch, Screen on the Green, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End

OUT OF SIGHT (15) Director: Stephen Soderbergh

Harry Sand

Starring: George Clooney Elmore Leonard is the source for Stephen Soderbergh's irresistible slice of pulp fiction involving eccentric low-lifes, comic cops, intrigues

and heists. George Clooney plays the jail-breaking hero, Jack Foley, as a down-and-dirty version of of his career so far. Suddenly, he seems to be a grown-up film star at a time when most of Hollywood's male heartthrobs don't look old enough to get served in a pub. West End: Barbican Screen, Clapham Picture House, Elephant & Castle Coronet, Empire Leicester Square, Hammersmith Virgin, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on Baker Street, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Trocadero

THE PHILADELPHIA STORY (U) Director: George Cukor

Starring: Katharine Hepburn, Cary Grant, ¿James Stewart

Sublime cinema. Cukor's movie - in which Hepburn's imminent wedding is disrupted by the appearance of her former fiancé (Grant) and a scandal-sheet reporter (Stewart) - has a strange. melancholy heart. You never doubt that it'll be the

one who loves her most who'll lead her to the altar. but between the rounds of screwball bickering. Hepburn's unsatisfied heiress sheds real tears. West End: Curzon Soho

SLUMS OF BEVERLY HILLS (15)

Starring: Alan Arkin

Tamara Jenkins's fictionalised account of her own teenage years in the outskirts of Beverly Hills has many moments that - after The Ice Storm and Boogie Nights - seem rather overdone. But Jenkins has a sure instinct for crippling social embarrassment, an impeccable sense of comic timing, and a superb central performer in Alan Arkin - a relic of the decade currently enjoying a well-deserved renaissance. West End: ABC Shaftesbury Avenue, Clapham Picture House, a negotiator forced to kick up a hostage Ritzy Cinema, Screen on Baker Street, Virgin

> T-REX: BACK TO THE CRETACEOUS (3-D) (U)

Director: Brett Leonard Starring: Peter Horton

I-Max 3-D dinosaurs are the kind of cute sensation for which cinema was invented, and Leonard's simply-scripted effects showcase lets the reptiles roar in your face, swoop over your head, and pursue you through the trees. But while you see every scale of the tyrannosaurus in living colour, you also get a pin-sharp view of Liz Stauber's zits. West End: Pepsi IMAX Cinema

VICTORY (15)

Director: Mark Peploe Starring: Willem Dafoe, Irene Jacob, Sam Neill This Euro-funded Conrad adaptation takes us to a sleazy hotel in the South Seas where well-known character actors (Simon Callow, Bill Paterson, etc) Cary Grant, and turns in the best performance favour extravagant facial hair, and the mid-price stars (Jacob, Neill, Dafoe) do some safe, literary acting. Archers fans should take a look, as one of the hairier patrons is played by Edward Kelsey, better known as the voice of Joe Grundy. West End: ABC Panton Street, Clapham Picture House

THE WISDOM OF CROCODILES (15)

Director: Po Chih Leong Starring: Jude Law, Elina Lowensohn, Timothy Spall

Jude Law stars as a contemporary vampire in a designer anorak, who has the decency to wine and dine his victims before he goes for their jugular. A well-intentioned attempt to give the genre an adult twist is undone by a script that can't tell the difference between sophistication and pretentious rambling. West End: ABC Panton Street, ABC Shaftesbury Avenue, Clapham Picture House

Matthew Sweet

GENERAL RELEASE

ANGEL SHARKS (MARIE BAIE DES ANGES) (15)

Manuel Pradal's handsome debut feature has seductive surface qualities, and its disjointed scenes of adolescent decadence are engaging. But t's empty, pretentions stuff, a sunny triumph of Bille August turns Victor Hugo's enormous novel

ANTZ (PG)

Nerd icon Woody Allen provides the voice of worker-ant "Z", who breaks out of his totalitarian rut when he falls in with Princess Bala (Sharon Stone). West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Elephant & Castle Coronet, Hammersmith Virgin, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington. Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Plaza, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Trocadero

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and the

A techno soundtrack burnes and grinds behind this monotonous arcade-game thriller about a New York vampire-killer tackling a power-crazed new bloodsucker. Noise and martial-arts action mask its tinny pedigree. West End: Elephant & Castle Coronet, Hammersmith Virgin, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End

DEAD MAN'S CURVE (15)

All the students at this nameless American college are trying to butcher each other, led into temptation by an obscure regulation which awards straight-A grades to room-mates of suicides. Though not as deliciously nasty as the Scream films, Dead Man's Curve delivers a fine quota of drive-in shocks. West End: Odeon Cam-

FLIZABETH (15)

Shekhar Kapur's film is the tale of a female figurehead struggling to gain purchase in a male world. But Kapur neglects the opportunities for fun in a story of independence triumphing over cruelty. West End: Odeon Haymarket, Odeon Kensington. Odeon Mezzanine, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Virgin Fulham Road

FEAR AND LOATHING IN LAS VEGAS (18) Terry Gilliam's adaptation, starring Johnny Depp as Hunter S Thompson, tilts at Ralph Steadman cartoonery for its tale of a drug-fuelled journalistic assignment. Incident, caricature and lurid 1970s fashions are substituted for plot and character, and the film soon descends into narcotic lunacy. West End: ABC Baker Street, Empire Leicester Square, Richmond Filmhouse, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Haymarket

THE FOUNTAINHEAD (PG)

Vidor's melodrama stars Gary Cooper as an architect who takes on an evil corporate boss. Its expressionistic camerawork and cod-Freudian symbolism present a bizarre moral message: that we should celebrate the young entrepreneurs as a Nietzschean superman. West End: Curzon Soho

Hal Hartley's fable traces the fate of a piece of erotic verse which springs from the head of a garbage man. The story's subtle twists and turns conjure Hartley's latest into a tour de force. West End: Curzon Soho, Renoir, Rilzy Cinema

Krabbe's first stab as a director results in an uncertain soap opera focused on a Hasidic family in Director Todd Haynes has created a masterpiece. 1970s Holland. Fitful as drama, the film comes to West End: Warner Village West End

life as a showcase for its high-profile performers

LES MISERABLES (12)

form over content. West End: ABC Swiss Centre vinto an enormous film and it's as traditional as idons come inese days – earnesi deferential and almost humourless. West End: Odeon West End, UCI Whiteleys

plus rising star Laura Fraser. West End: ABC

Swiss Centre, Curzon Mayfair, Screen on the Hill

MEULAN (II)

In Disney's animated feature, a girl disguises herself as a soldier to spare her ailing father from the certain death of combat. This has it all: a proactive heroine; a strong father/daughter relationship; honour, nobility, and, of course, crossdressing. West End Hammersmith Virgin, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Mezzanine, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Rio Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelseo, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End

MY NAME IS JOE (15)

Ken Loach's solid social-realist drama tells the tale of Joe (Peter Mullan), a recovering alcoholic torn between his old life (drugs, crime) and his new (romance with a middle-class health visitor). My Name is Joe brilliantly evokes a Britain caught below the poverty line. West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Chelsea Cinema, Gate Notting Hill, Phoenix Cinema, Rio Cinema, Ritzy Cinema, Virgin Haymarket

There's an air of knackered resignation to John Frankenheimer's latest movie about a gang of mercenaries in pursuit of a suitcase. As the leader den Town, Odeon Kensington, Virgin Trocadero of the gang, Robert De Niro does his blank-faced. gristle-chewing act. As dull as ditchwater West End:Barbican Screen, Elephant & Castle Coronet. Hammersmith Virgin, Odeon Camden Town. Odeon Kensington, Odeon Leicester Square. Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road

The main problem with John Dahl's poker-club thriller is the weak hand dealt by its golden-boy star, Matt Damon, who is comprehensively outacted by almost everyone else. West End: Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Ritzy Cinema, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Haymarket, Warner Village West End

SAVING PRIVATE RYAN (15)

In Spielberg's Second World War drama, Captain John Miller (Tom Hanks) is dispatched with his smad on a compassionate mission to find a young private behind enemy lines and return him home to safety. The harsh, devastating battle sequences will be branded on your memory. West End: Plaza

THE TRUMAN SHOW (PG)

Peter Weir's new comedy, about a man (played by Jim Carrey) who discovers that his whole existence has been televised, is very funny, due more to the script than its star's presence. West End: Gate Notting Hill, Plaza, Virgin Trocadero

VELVET GOLDMENE (18)

Brian Slade (Jonathan Rhys Myers) is a Bowieesque idol; his friend and mentor, Curt Wild (Ewan McGregor), is a self-destructive US rocker. Their story is unravelled by a journalist (Christian Bale) 10 years after the hoax assassination of Slade.

THE INDEPENDENT RECOMMENDS

THE FIVE BEST FILMS

حكدًا من الاصل

Insomnia (15) Remarkable debut by Erik Skjoldbjaerg begins with a policeman (Stellan Skarsgard) investigating a sex killing in Norway. but becomes a haunting study in guilt, duplicity

and sleeplessness. Out of Sight (15)

Director Steven Soder-

bergh's tale of love on opposite sides of the law knocks spots off every previous Elmore Leonard adaptation, and boasts in George Clooney (above) and Jennifer Lopez the swooniest romantic pairing of the cinema year.

Computer-animated comedy voiced by a stellar cast stars Woody Allen as a worker ant who becomes an unlikely opponent of the colony's totalitarian regime. Good fun, and Allen's best work in a while.

My Name is Joe (15)

All that one would expect from a Ken Loach film - humour, indignation, emotional sympathy driven by Peter Mullan's scary, intense performance as a recovering alcoholic.

The Philadelphia Story (U; Curzon Soĥo, NFT)

As civilised and graceful as any romantic comedy ever made, it also brought together the most loveable of Hollywood trios - Katharine Hepburn. Cary Grant and James Stewart.

ANTHONY OUINN

THE FIVE BEST PLAYS

The Invention of Love

Theatre Royal, Haymarket Tom Stoppard's witty, heartbreaking fantasia on the twin passions of AE Housman; scholarship and an unavailable heterosexual friend.

Little Malcolm and His Struggle **Against the Eunuchs** Hampstead Theatre

Denis Lawson's superbly amusing cast are in no way eclipsed by screen-heartthrob Ewan McGregor, who brings complexity to the central role.

Kafka's Dick Piccadilly Theatre Spiriting Kafka to suburban England, this hilarious

romp by Alan Bennett (below) survives some peculiar casting in Peter Hall's revival.

The Seaguli West Yorkshire

Playhouse Jude Kelly's new company, headed by Ian McKellen and Claire Higgins, kicks off with this Chekhov classic in a tempting season that will include The Tempest.

Twelfth Night Crucible Theatre, Sheffield

Perfectly thought-through production by Michael Grandage evokes an Illyria where storms rage as much within as without.

PAUL TAYLOR

THE FIVE BEST SHOWS

Louișe Bourgeois Serpentine

Gallery Autobiographical installations from the surrealist sculptress feature a giant mother/ spider presiding over images of spinning and weaving, restoration and decay. To 10 Jan

Hugely popular competitive bash in which four artists show their wares. Chris Ofili, Tacita Dean (above), Cathy de Monchaux and Sam Taylor-

Bridget Riley Abbott Hall, Kendal A retrospective on Riley's career from her early

to colour, stripes and diagonals. To 31 Jan Edward Burne-Jones

The people's Pre-Raphaelite centenary exhibition gathers together many favourites such as King Cophetua and the Beggar Maid. To 17 Jan

Helen Chadwick Ferens Gallery, Hull The first overview since this influential UK artist's death mid-career in 1996. Lush light-boxes of fruit. flowers and fluids, and the last series, Unnatural Selection, showcasing IVF embryos. To 17 Jan

TOM LUBBOCK

<u>CINEMA</u> WEST END

ABC BAKER STREET

ABC PANTON STREET (0870-902 0404) 👄 Piccadilly Circus The Last Days of Disco 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6pm, 8.25pm A Perfect Murder 2.40pm, 5.40pm, 8.20pm Victory 1.10pm, 3.35pm, 6.05pm, 8.35pm The Wisdom of Crocodiles 1.10pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm

ABC PICCADILLY (0171-287 4322 (from 1pm) Piccadilly Circus Hamam: The Turkish Bath 1.25pm, 3.50pm, 6.10pm, 8.35pm If Only 1.20pm, 3.45pm. 6.05pm, 8.35pm

ABC SHAFTESBURY AVENUE (0370-902 0402) ♦ Leicester Square Slums of Beverly Hills 1.30pm, 3.50pm, 6.25pm, 8.55pm The Wisdom of Crocodiles 1.05pm, 3.25pm, 5.50pm, 8.25pm

ABC SWISS CENTRE 3.25pm, 5.20pm, 7.15pm, 9.10pm The Governess 1.45pm. 4.05pm, 6.25pm, 8.45pm Left Luggage 1.30pm, 6.45pm Rien Ne Va Plus 4.30pm, 8.55pm La Vie Revée des Anges 1.25pm, 3.45pm, 6.05pm, 8.25pm

ABC TOTTENHAM COURT

(0870-902 0414) ⊕ Tottenham Court Road Antz 1,25pm, 3,25pm, 5.25pm, 7.40pm, 9.45pm My Name is Joe 1.15pm, 4pm, 6.40pm, 9.20pm The Negotiator 2.20pm, 6.05pm, 9.05pm

(0171-638 8891) → Barbican Out of Sight 6pm, 8.40pm Ronin 6.15pm, 8.40pm CHELSEA CINEMA

(0171-351 3742) ← Sioane Square My Name is Joe 1.45pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.50pm CLAPHAM PICTURE HOUSE

(0171-498 3323) & Clapham Common Fire 4.45pm, 9.15pm Out of Sight 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm Slums of Beverly Hills 3.45pm, 8.45pm Victory 1.30pm, 6.45pm The Wisdom of Crocodiles 1.45pm, 7pm

CURZON MAYFAIR (0171-369 1720) & Green Park Left Luggage 1.15pm, 3.45pm

CURZON SOHO CURZON SOHO
(0171-734 2255 (12pm-6pm)

- Lekcester Square The Eel
1.30pm, 4.15pm, 6.45pm,
9.15pm Fire 1pm, 6.30pm The
Fountainhead 2.45pm, 7.15pm
Henry Fool 3.20pm, 9pm The
Philadelphia Story 12.30pm,
50m 9 300m 5pm, 9.30pm

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE (0171-703 4968) & Elephant & Castle Antz 4pm, 6pm Blade 3.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.20pm Out of Sight 3.20pm, 5.55pm, 8.25pm

Ronin 8.25pm

EMPIRE LEICESTER SQUARE Vegas 12.40pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 9pm Out of Sight 12.10pm, 2.55pm, 5.50pm, 8.45pm Sliding Doors 1pm, 3.20pm, 5.40pm, 8pm

GATE NOTTING HILL (0171-727 4043) → Norting Hill Gate My Name Is Joe 4.25pm. 9pm The Truman Show 2.10pm. 6.40pm HAMMERSMITH VIRGIN

(0870-907 0718) → Ravenscourt Park/Hammersmith Antz 2.30pm, 4.40pm, 6.40pm Blade 8.40pm 4.40pm, 6.40pm Brade 6.40pm Mulan 1.30pm, 3.50pm The Negotiator 1.30pm, 4.30pm, 8.30pm Out of Sight 12.50pm, 3.30pm, 6.20pm, 9.10pm Ronin 12.50pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm,

ICA CINEMA (0171-930 3647) & Charing Cross Das Schloss 4.45pm, 7pm.

(0171-734 1506) & Piccadilly Circus Buffalo 66 1pm. 3.30pm. 6pm, 8.30pm Insomnia 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm

CURZON MINEMA (0171-369 1723) → Hyde Park Corner/Knightsbridge Revée des Anges 4.40pm. 6.50pm, 9pm

NOTTING HILL CORONET (0171-727 6705) → Notting Hill Gate The Negotiator 2.15pm,

ODEON CAMDEN TOWN (08705-050007) © Camden Town (08705-050007) © Camden Town Antz 11.40am, 1.40pm, 3.40pm Blade 5.45pm, 8.30pm The Negotiator 1.45pm, 5.05pm, 8.05pm Out of Sight 12.10pm, 3pm, 5.55pm, 8.40pm Ronin 12.15pm, 3.05pm, 6pm, 8.45pm Rounders 3.15pm, 8.35pm Snake Eyes 12.55pm, 6.10pm

ODEON HAYMARKET 7.45pm

ODEON KENSINGTON (08705-050007) & High Street Kensington Antz 12noon. 2.10pm, 4.20pm Blade 6.30pm. 9.25pm Elizabeth 12.35pm, 6.20pm If Only 2pm, 4.30pm, 7pm, 9.30pm Out of Sight 12.20pm, 3.20pm, 6.20pm, 9.20pm Ronin 12.30pm, 3.25pm. 6.20pm, 9.15pm Rounders 3.25pm. 9.10pm Snake Eyes 2pm, 4.35pm, 7.10pm, 9.45pm

ODEON LEICESTER SQUARE (08705-050007) ⊕ Leicester Square Ronin 12.35pm, 3.10pm,

ODEON MARBLE ARCH (08705-050007) → Marble Arch Antz 12.15pm, 2.15pm, 4.15pm Blade 12.35pm, 3.25pm, 6.20pm, 9.10pm The Negotiator 11.45am, 2.50pm, 5.55pm, 9pm Out of Sight 12.25pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 9.05pm Ronin 12.20pm, 3.15pm, 6.05pm, 8.55pm Rounders 6.20pm, 9.10pm

ODEON MEZZANINE 3.05pm, 5.35pm, 8.20pm If Only 3.05pm, 5.35pm, 8.20pm If Only 1.05pm, 3.30pm, 5.55pm, 8.25pm Lock, Stock & Tavo Smoking Barrels 1.25pm, 3.55pm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm There's Something About Mary 12.45pm, 3.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.20pm The Wedding Singer 2.20pm, 4.25pm, 6.35pm, 8.45pm 6.35pm, 8.45pm

ODEON SWISS COTTAGE Antz 12.30pm, 2.30pm, 4.40pm, 6.45pm, 8.55pm Blade 12.45pm, 3.15pm, 5.50pm, 8.20pm Elizabeth 2.45pm, 8.15pm If Only 1pm, 3.30pm, 6.05pm, 8.40pm Out of Sight 12.20pm, 3pm, 5.35pm, 8.20pm Ronln 12.10pm, 3pm, 5.40pm, 8.25pm Rounders 12.10pm, 5.30pm

ODEÓN WEST END

PEPSI IMAX CINEMA (0171-494 4153) ⊕ Piccadilly Circus Across the Sea of Time -12.45pm, 5.05pm Everest 3pm, 7.25pm, 9.30pm T-Rex: Back to the Cretaceous (3-D) 11.40am, 1.55pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.25pm,

PHOENIX CINEMA (0181-444 6789) & East Finchley My Name Is Joe 2.15pm. 4.30pm, 6.45pm, 9pm

PLAZA (0990-888990) O Piccadilly Circus Antz 2pm, 4.10pm, 6.30pm, 8.40pm For Richer or Poorer 1.15pm, 4pm Primary Colors 8.15pm Saving Private Ryan 3.15pm, 7.15pm The Truman Show 1pm, 3.30pm,

(0171-837 8402) O Russell

Square Henry Fool 2.10pm, 5.20pm, 8.15pm The Knowledge of Healing 1.05pm, 3pm, 5pm, RIO CINEMA (0171-254 6677) BR: Dalston Kingsland My Name is Joe 4pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm

RENOTR

RITZY CINEMA (0171-733 2229) BR/@ Brixton Antz 2.15pm, 4.10pm Blade 1.15pm, 3.50pm, 6.25pm. 9pm Hamam: The Turkish Bath 1.50pm My Name is Joe 3.45pm, 6.30pm. 9.10pm (+ Short: The Man Who held His Breath) Out of Sight 1.10pm, 3.55pm, 6.35pm, 9.15pm, (+ Short: Vacuum) Rounders 6.45pm Slums of Beverly Hills 1.30pm, 3.30pm, 5.30pm, 7.30pm, 9.30pm

SCREEN ON BAKER STREET

(0171-935 2772) © Baker Street Out of Sight 3.40pm. 6.10pm. 8.40pm Slums of Beverly Hills 2.40pm, 4.50pm, 6.55pm, 9pm SCREEN ON THE GREEN (0171-226 3520) Angel The Negotiator 2.50pm. 5.50pm.

SCREEN ON THE HILL (0171-435 3366) ⊕ Belsize Park Left Luggage 2.40pm, 4.50pm, 7pm, 9.05pm

UCI WHITELEYS Antz 2.50pm, 5.05pm, 7.05pm Blade 4pm, 6.45pm, 9.25pm Les Misérables 2.40pm, 5.50pm, 8.40pm Mulan 3pm The Negotlator 3.10pm, 6pm, 8.50pm Out of Sight 3.50pm, 6.35pm, 9.20pm Primary Colors 9.05pm Ronin 4.10pm, 6.50pm, 9.35pm Small Soldiers 1.10pm, 9.35pm Small Soldiers 1.20pm, 9.45pm, 7.20pm,

VIRGIN CHELSEA (0870-9070710) ⊕ Sloane Square/South Kensington Antz 2.30pm, 4.30pm, 6.30pm. 8.30pm Mulan 1pm, 3.30pm Out of Sight 12.30pm, 3pm, 6.10pm, 8.45pm Rounders 12.45pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 9pm There's Something About Mary 1pm,

9.45pm

3.30pm, 6.30pm, 9.15pm VIRGIN FULHAM ROAD Kensington Elizabeth 2pm, 5.30pm, 8.20pm If Only 1.40pm, 5.30pm. 8.20pm ir Only 1.40pm, 4.40pm, 7.10pm, 9.15pm The Negotiator 12.40pm, 3.30pm, 6.20pm, 9.15pm A Perfect Murder 2.30pm, 5.50pm, 8.40pm Ronin 1pm, 4pm, 6.50pm, 9.30pm Slums of Beverly Hills 1.30pm, 4pm,

6.40pm, 8.50pm VIRGIN HAYMARKET (0870-907 0712) ← Piccadilly Circus Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas 12.45pm, 3.20pm, 6pm. 8.35pm My Name is Joe 12.55pm, 3.30pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm Rounders 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 5.45pm, 8.25pm

VIRGIN TROCADERO
(0870-907 0716) & Piccadilly
Circus Antz 12.10pm, 2.20pm,
4.40pm, 6.40pm, 9.10pm Blade
12.10pm, 3pm, 5.50pm, 8.40pm
Dead Man's Curve 12.30pm,
2.40pm, 5pm, 7.10pm, 9.30pm
The Exorcist (25th Anniversary
Rerelease) 9pm The Negotiator
2pm, 5.40pm, 8.45pm Out of
Sight 12noon, 2.50pm, 5.40pm,
8.30pm There's Something About
Mary 12.50pm, 3.30pm, 6.20pm
The Truman Show 12noon,
2.20pm, 4.35pm, 6.50pm, 9.20pm VIRGIN TROCADERO WARNER VILLAGE WEST END (0171-437 4343) ← Leicester Square Blade 12.30pm, 3.30pm, 6.30pm, 9.20pm The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) 11.55am, 2.40pm, 5.30pm, 8.20pm Hope Floats 1.30pm. 4.10pm, 6.50pm Lethal Weapon 4.11.50pm, 2.50pm, 5.40pm, 8.10pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1.20pm, 3.50pm, 8.40pm The Negotiator 12noon, 2pm, 3pm, 5.10pm, 6pm, 8.20pm, 9pm A Perfect Murder 12.10pm, 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm Rounders 12.2<mark>0</mark>pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 8.50pm Velvet

CINEMA

PARK ROYAL WARNER VILLAGE

(0181-896 0066) + Park Royal Antz

12.10pm, 2.20pm, 4.20pm, 6.20pm, 8.30pm Blade 12.50pm, 1.20pm, 5.20pm Snake Eyes 7,20pm, 10pm There's Something About Mary 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 6pm, 8.50pm The Truman Show 1.40pm, BARKING

ODEON (08705 050007) ← Barking Antz 12.20pm, 2.15pm, 4.15pm, 6.15pm Blade 12.30pm, 3pm, 5.30pm, 8pm If Only 12.15pm, 3.45pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm Kuch Hotal Hai 12non 3.46pm, Kuch Hotal Hai 12non 3.46pm, 7.30pm Out

Hai 12noon, 3.40pm, 7.20pm Out of Sight 12.30pm, 3.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.30pm Ronin 8pm The Wisdom of Crocodiles 12.30pm, 3pm, 5.30pm, 8pm

Out of Sight 1.40pm, 5.05pm, 8.15pm Ronin 2.10pm, 5.15pm, 8.05pm Snake Eyes 8.50pm BECKENHAM

3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm The Land Girls 6pm Out of Sight 2.20pm, 5.40pm, 8.30pm Ronin 2.40pm, 8.20pm BEXLEYHEATH CINEWORLD (0181-303 1550) BR: Bexleyheath Antz 12noon, 2pm, 4pm, 6pm, 8pm Blade 2pm, 4.40pm, 7.15pm, 9.45pm The Ex-ordst (25th Anniversary Reretease) 7.10pm, 9.40pm Hope Floats 2.05pm, 4.35pm The Horse

Whisperer 3pm, 6.30pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 9.50pm The Negotiator 12.05pm, 3pm, 6.30pm, 9.25pm Out of Sight 1pm, 4pm, 7pm, 9.40pm Ronin 1.20pm, 4.15pm, 7pm, 9.35pm Small Soldiers 12.10pm, 5.3pm Small Soldier's 12.10pm, 2.35pm, 5pm Snake Eyes 10pm There's Something About Mary 7.25pm, 9.40pm The Truman Show 12noon, 2.25pm, 5.20pm, 7.30pm The Wisdom of Crocodiles 9.25pm

ODEON (08705 050007) BR: Bromley North/Bromley South Antz 1.05pm, 2.55pm, 4.45pm, 6.30pm Blade 3pm, 5.55pm, 8.40pm The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) 8.25pm Out of Sight 3.05pm, 5.50pm, 8.35pm Ronin 2.55pm, 5.45pm, 8.30pm

CATFORD ABC (0181-698 3306) BR: Catford Antz 2pm, 4pm, 6pm Blade 8.15pm The Exercist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) 2.30pm, 5.15pm, 8.20pm Small Soldiers

CROYDON **CLOCKTOWER (0181-253 1030)**

of Sight 6pm, 8.30pm Ronin 6.15pm, 8.30pm

WARNER VILLAGE (0181-592 2020) → Dagenham Heathway Antz 2.30pm, 4.30pm, 6.30pm, 8.30pm Blade 2pm, 4.30pm, 7pm, 9.30pm Blade 2pm, 4,30pm, 7pm, 9,30pm The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) 9,20pm Mulan 1,30pm, 3,20pm, 5,20pm The Negotiator 3pm, 6pm, 9pm Out of Sight 1,10pm, 3,50pm, 6,30pm, 9,10pm, 8,50pm Rounders 7,15pm Small Soldiers 2,15pm, 4,40pm Snake Eyes 2,30pm, 4,50pm, 7,10pm, 9,50pm There's Something About Mary 2,10pm, 4,50pm, 7,10pm, Mary 2.10pm. 4.50pm, 7.10pm. 9.50pm The Truman Show 7.10pm The Wisdom of Crocodiles 9.55pm

VIRGIN UXBRIDGE ROAD (0870-9070719) BR/O Ealing Broadway Antz 4.30pm, 6.40pm Blade 8.15pm Elizabeth 2.30pm, 5.30pm Out of Sight 2pm, 5pm, 8pm Ronin 9.10pm

EDGWARE BELLE-VUE (0181-381 2556) ↔ Edgware Bade Miyan Chote Miyan phone for times Fire phone for times Ruch Kuch Hota Hai phone for times Mehndi phone for times Pardeshi Babu phone for times Rounders 2.15pm, 5.15pm, 8.15pm

LEE VALLEY UCI 12 (0990-888990) O Tottenham Hale Antz 2.30pm, 3.15pm, 4.55pm, 5.25pm, 7.50pm Blade 4pm, 6.50pm, 9.40pm The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) 3.45pm, 8.20pm Kuch Kuch Hota Hai 8.10pm The Negotiator 1.55pm, 8.10pm The Negotiator 1.55pm, 8.15pm, 8.50pm Out of Sight 2.55pm, 8.50pm, 9.05pm The Player's Club. 10.05pm, 8.50pm Series 2.40pm Club 10.05pm Ronin 3.40pm, 6.25pm, 9.15pm Saving Private Ryan 8pm Slums of Beverly Hills 3.55pm, 6.20pm, 8.40pm Small Soldiers 2.05pm, 3.05pm, 4.40pm, 5.35pm There's Something About Mary 9.55pm The Wisdom of Crocodiles 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 6.20pm, 6.20pm, 6.10pm, 6.20pm, 6.20pm, 6.10pm, 6.20pm, 6.10pm, 6.20pm, 6.20pm, 6.10pm, 6.20pm, 6.20pm, 6.10pm, 6.20pm, 6.20pm, 6.10pm, 6.20pm, 6

CINEWORLD THE MOVIES (0181-867 0555) BR: Feltham Antz 11am, 867 0555) BR: Feltham Antz 11am, 1pm, 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm Blade 1,45pm, 4,30pm, 7,10pm, 9,45pm Doli Sajake Rakhna 11,45am, 2,45pm, 6pm, 9,15pm Elizabeth 11am, 1,30pm, 4,10pm The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) 6,50pm, 9,10pm If Only 11am, 1pm, 3,30pm, 5,45pm, 8pm Kuch Kuch Mach Math Lang, 4,20m, 8pm Lock, Stock & Two Sm

Kuch Hota Hai 1pm. 4.30pm, 8pm rels 9.45pm Mehndt 11.45am, 6.20pm The Negotiator 12.30pm, 3.30pm, 6.30pm, 9.30pm Out of Sight 11.30am, 2pm, 4.35pm, 7pm, 9.30pm Pardeshi Babu 2.50pmm, 9.55pm Ronin 17.25am, 1.55pm, 4.25pm, 7.05pm, 9.35pm Small Soldiers 3.55pm The Soldier (Asian Film) 12noon, 3.20pm, 6.45pm, 9.50pm There's Something About Mary 11am, 1.30pm, 6.40pm, 9.10pm The Truman Show 11.50am, 2pm, 4.40pm, 7.05pm The Wisdom of Crocodiles 10pm

WARNER VILLAGE (0181-446 9344) & East Finchley/Finchley Central Antz 12.10pm, 2.20pm, 4.30pm, 6.50pm, 9.50pm Blade 12.35pm, 4.10pm, 7.10pm, 9.40pm Elizabeth 5.50pm The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) 8.40pm Hope Floats 1pm. 3.40pm, 7pm Mulan 1.20pm, 3.30pm The Negotiator 11.55am, 2.50pm, 6pm, 9pm Out Of Sight 12.25pm, 3.10pm, 6.20pm, 9.10pm Ronin 1.10pm, 3.50pm, 6.40pm, 9.20pm Rounders 8.50pm Small Soldiers 12.50pm, 4pm There's Something About Mary 9.30pm The Truman

Show 6.30pm FINCHLEY ROAD
WARNER VILLAGE (0171-604 1110) © Finchley Road Antz 12ncon, 2pm, 4pm, 6pm, 8pm, 10.25pm Blade 1.15pm, 4.10pm, 7pm, 9,55pm Elizabeth 1.45pm, 4.30pm Hope Floats 1pm, 6.15pm If Only 1pm, 3.40pm, 6.45pm, 9.20pm Les MisCrables 3.30pm, 9pm The Negotiator 12.10pm, 3.05pm, 6.20pm, 9.30pm Out of Sight 12.25pm. 3.20pm, 6.05pm, 9.15pm Ronin 1.30pm, 4.10pm, 6.50pm, 9.40pm 7.30pm, 10.05pm 9.40pm

GOLDERS GREEN Green Elizabeth 2.45pm, 5.30pm,

CINEMA (0181-293 0101) BR:

Greenwich The Negotiator 3.25pm,

GREENWICH

6.20pm, 9.15pm Out of Sight 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9pm Rounders 4.25pm, 6.55pm, 9.25pm HAMPSTEAD Park Antz 1.40pm, 3.40pm Out of Sight 2.20pm, 5.10pm, 8.10pm Ronin 5.30pm, 8.20pm Slums of Beverly Hills 1.25pm, 3.40pm,

5.55pm, 8.40pm SAFARI CINEMA (0181-426 0303) O Harrow on the Hill/Harrow & Wealdstone Doli Sajake Rakhna 8.45pm Fire 7pm The Soldier

(Asian Film) 8.45pm

WARNER VILLAGE (0181-427 9009) © Harrow on the Hill Antz 1pm, 3pm, 5.05pm, 7.10pm, 9pm Blade 1.05pm, 3.45pm, 6.25pm, 9.10pm Elizabeth 6.30pm The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rere-lease) 9.20pm Les Misérables 12.10pm, 5.50pm Mulan 12.05pm, 2.10pm, 4.15pm The Negodiator 11.30am, 2.30pm, 5.40pm, 8.50pm Out of Sight 1.25pm, 4.05pm, 6.45pm, 9.30pm Ronin 1.20pm, form 5.50pm 9.60pm 9.50pm 4pm, 6.50pm, 9.40pm Rounders 3pm. 8.40pm Small Soldlers 12.35pm, 3.05pm Snake Eyes 5.30pm, 7.50pm, 10.10pm There's Something About Mary 4.30pm, 9.50pm The Iruman Show 1.50pm,



Turner Prize Tate Gallery

Wood were on this year's shortlist. To 10 Jan

Sixties Op Art, moving from rippling monochromes

Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery

ABC (0870 9020412) BR: Becken-ham Junction Antz 1.30pm.

BR: Croydon West/East My Name Is Joe 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm + The Man Who Held His Breath SAFARI (0181-688 3422) BR: West Croydon Antz 5pm Blade 6.30pm Doli Saga Ke Rakhna 8.45pm Out

WARNER VILLAGE (0181-680 8090) BR: East Croydon Antz 12.40pm, 2.50pm, 5.05pm, 7.15pm, 9.10pm Blade 12.45pm. 3.30pm, 6.20pm, 9.30pm Elizabeth 3.30m, 0.20m, 9.30m Hizabeth 2pm The Exorcist (25th Anniver-sary Rerelease) 9.20pm Mulan 4.45pm The Negotlator 11.40am, 2.40pm, 5.50pm, 9pm Out of Sight 12.30pm, 3.15pm, 6pm, 8.45pm Ronin 1.30pm, 4pm. 6.50pm Rounders 7pm Small Soldiers 1.45pm. 4.10pm Snake Eyes 9.50pm There's Something About Mary 12.50pm. 3.25pm, 6.05pm, 8.40pm The Truman Show 6.40pm

LONDON LOCALS

3.50pm, 6.50pm, 9.50pm The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) 9.10pm Mulan 1pm. 4pm, 7pm The Negotiator 11.50am, 2.50pm, 5.50pm, 9pm Out of Sight 12.25pm, 3.25pm, 6.25pm, 9.30pm A Perfect Murder 6.30pm Ronin 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6.40pm, 9.40pm Rounders 4.10pm, 9.20pm Small Soldiers HOLLOWAY

ODEON (08705 050007) C Holloway Road/Archway Antz 1pm, 3.05pm, 5pm, 7.10pm Blade 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 5.55pm, 8.30pm Dead Man's Curve 9.15pm The Exordst (25th Anniversary Rerelease) 8.35pm If Only 1.15pm, 3.50pm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm The Nedator 1.55pm. 5.10pm, 8.15pm gotlator 1.55pm. 5.10pm, 6.05pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm Rentin 6.05pm, 3.40pm **Rounders** 1.55pm, 6.40pm Snake Eyes 4.20pm, 9.05pm There's Something About Mary 6.10pm The Truman Show 1.10pm.

ILFORD

ODEON (08705 050007) & Gants Hill Antz 12.55pm, 2.40pm, 4.30pm, 6.20pm Blade 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rere-lease) 8.15pm If Only 1.20pm. 3.40pm, 6.05pm, 8.45pm Out of Sight 12.20pm, 3pm, 5.40pm, 8.20pm Ronin 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm

KINGSTON

ABC OPTIONS (0870-9020409) BR: Kingston Antz 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm Out of Sight 2.10pm, 5.20pm, 8.05pm Ronin 2.20pm, 5.30pm, 8.15pm

KILBURN TRICYCLE THEATRE (0171-328 1000) & Kilburn My Name Is Joe 6.30pm, 8.45pm

MUSWELL HILL ODEON (08705 050007) ← High-gate Antz 1.30pm, 3.45pm Blade 5.45pm, 8.15pm Mulan Sight 2.30pm, 5.50pm, 8.25pm Ronin 3.05pm, 5.40pm, 8.20pm

PREMIER (0181-235 3006) BR: Peckham Rye Antz 12.20pm, 4pm, 5.50pm, 7.40pm Elizabeth 3.50pm, 6.30pm, 9pm Mulan 12.10pm The Negotiator 3.25pm, 6.20pm. 9.15pm Out of Sight 3.40pm. 6.25pm, 9pm A Perfect Murder 4.40pm, 7.05pm, 9.25pm Ronin 4.05pm, 6.35pm, 9.15pm Snake

PURLEY ABC (0870-9020407) BR: Purley Antz 6.15pm. 8.25pm Out of Sight 5.10pm. 8pm Ronin 5.30pm.

PUTNEY ABC (0870 9020401) ← Putney Bridge. BR: Putney. Antz 2.15pm. 4.15pm, 6.15pm Elizabeth 8.15pm The Negotiator 2,15pm, 5.15pm. 8.15pm Out of Sight 2.15pm, 5.15cm, 8.15cm

RICHMOND ODEON (08705 050007) BR/O Richmond The Negotiator 2.15pm, 5.40pm, 8.40pm Out of Sight 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 6pm. 9pm Ronin 12.40pm, 3.50pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm

ODEON STUDIO (08705 050007) BR/O Richmond Antz 1.10pm 3.20pm, 5.30pm, 7.40pm, 9.40pm Blade 1.10pm, 3.50pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm Elizabeth 3.40pm, 9pm Rounders 1.10pm, 6.10pm Slums of Beverly Hills 2.10pm, 4.30pm,

ROMFORD

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ABC (0870-9020419) BR: Romford. Antz 5.55pm Blade 8.25pm Out of Sight 2.30pm, 5.30pm, 8.15pm Ronin 2.20pm The Wisdom of Crocodiles 2.05pm. 4.15pm. 6.25pm, 8.40pm

ODEON LIBERTY 2 (08705 050007) BR: Romford Antz 12.10pm, 2.15pm, 4.15pm, 6.15pm Blade 12.40pm, 3.20pm, 6pm, 8.35pm The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) 3.15pm. 8.25pm If Only 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.40pm Les Misérables 8.05pm The Negotiator 1.45pm, m Out of 12.15pm, 3pm, 5.40pm, 8.30pm Ronin 12.20pm, 3.10pm, 5.45pm, 3.30pm Rounders 12.45pm, 5.50pm Small Soldiers 12.30pm 3pm. 5.50pm There's Something About Mary 8,20pm

ABC (0541-555131) BR: Sidcup Antz 6pm Out Of Sight 5.40pm. 8.20pm Ronin 8.15pm

VIRGIN (0870-9070717) BR: Cricklewood Antz 2.30pm, 4.40pm, 6.45pm, 9pm Blade 1.20pm, 4pm. .40pm, 9.20pm The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) 9pm The Negotiator 1.30pm, 4.30pm, 7.45pm Out of Sight 1pm, 3.45pm, 6.20pm, 9.15pm Ronin 2.30pm, 5.15pm, 8.15pm There's Some-

STREATHAM ABC (0870-9020415) BR: Streatham Hill Antz 2.15pm, 4.20pm, 6.25pm, 8.40pm Out of Sight 2.25pm, 5.30pm, 8.20pm The Wisdom of Crocodlles 2.10pm, 4.25pm, 6.40pm, 8.45pm

OPEON (08705 050007) BR: Streatham Hill/ Brixton/Clapham Common Blade 12.20pm. 3pm. .40pm, 8.20pm The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) 12.20pm, 3pm, 5.40pm, 8.20pm If Only 1.10pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm The Negotiator 1.40pm, 5.10pm, 8.10pm Ronin 12.30pm

STRATFORD NEW STRATFORD PICTURE HOUSE (0181-555 3366) BR/O Stratford East Antz 1 pm. 2.50pm. 7pm Blade 2pm, 6.35pm The Negotiator 2.30pm, 5.30pm, 8.30pm Out Of Sight 1.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm The Wisdom of Crocodiles

SURREY QUAYS UCI (0990 888990) Surrey Chays Antz 2.45pm, 5pm, 7.30pm Blade 3.20pm, 6.20pm, 9pm Elizabeth 3.30pm The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) 8.45pm Hope Floats 5.50pm Les Mis-Çrables 6.35pm Mulan 2pm, 4.15pm The Negotiator 3.40pm, 6.45pm, 9.45pm Out of Sight 4.05pm, 7pm, 9.55pm The Player's Club 10.05pm Ronin 3.10pm, Small Soldiers 3pm There's Something About Mary 9.15pm The Truman Show 6.10pm The Wisdom of Crocodiles 2.15pm, 4.45pm, 7.20pm, 10.10pm

UCI 6 (0990-888990) BR: Sutton/ C Morden Antz 1pm, 3.15pm, 5.30pm Blade 4pm, 7pm, 9.45pm Elizabeth 5.45pm, 8.45pm The Land Girls 3pm Les Misérables 3.45pm The Negotiator 2.45pm, 6pm, 9,15pm Out of Sight 12.45pm, 3.30pm, 6.15pm, 9pm Ronin 6.45pm, 9.30pm Saving Pri-

vate Ryan 8.30pm

TURNPIKE LANE CORONET (0181-888 2519) © Turnpike Lane, Antz 4pm, 6pm Elizabeth 3.10pm, 5.45pm, 8.15pm Out of Sight 3.20pm, 5.55pm, 8.25pm Ronin 8.25pm

UXBRIDGE ODEON (08705 050007)

Out of Sight 1.40pm, 5.35pm, 8.20pm Ronin 5.45pm, 8.25pm WALTHAMSTOW

ABC'(0870-9020424) ← Waitham stow Central Antz 1.40pm, 3.40pm Blade 8.15pm Out of Sight 2.05pm, 4.50pm, 8.10pm Ronin 5.30pm The Wisdom Of Crocodile 1.45pm, 4pm, 6.15pm, 8.30pm

WALTON ON THAMES THE SCREEN AT WALTON (01932-252825) BR: Walton on Tharnes Antz 3.40pm The Negotiator 2.35pm. 5.25pm. 8.10pm Out of Sight 6pm, 8.30pm

CORONET (0181-850 3351) BR: Eltham Antz 4pm, 6pm, 8,45pm Out of Sight 3.20pm, 5.55pm,

BELLE-VUE (0181-830 0822) Willesden Green Rounders 4pm

WIMBLEDON ODEON (08705 050007) BR/ Wimbledon Antz 1.30pm.
3.15pm. 5pm. 6.45pm Blade 2,30pm. 5.20pm. 8.20pm If Only 1,40pm, 4pm, 6,20pm, 8,40pm Out of Sight 12,25pm, 3pm, 5,45pm, 8,30pm Ronin 12,25pm, 3,10pm, 5,45pm, 8.30pm **Rounders** 8.30pm

WOODFORD ABC (0181-989 3463) - South Woodford Antz 2.15pm, 5.30pm Blade 2.30pm, 5.30pm, 8.15pm Out of Sight 2.30pm, 5.40pm, 8.10pm Rounders 8.20pm

MOOFMICH CORONET (0181-854 5043) BR: Woolwich Arsenal Antz 4pm, 6pm Blade 3,15pm, 5,45pm, 8,20pm Ronin 8.25pm

CINEMA REPERTORY

LONDON CINE LUMIERE Queensberry Place SW7 (0171-838 2144/2146) La Vie de Jésus (NC) 7.30pm

THE LUX Hoxton Square N1 (0171-684 0201) Flaming Creatures (18)/Couch (NC)/Heads (NC) 7pm Roll Your Own: New Film Makers Showcase (NC) 9pm

NFT South Bank SE1 (0171-928 3232) The Philadelphia Story (U) 2.30pm. 8.50pm The Shawshank Redemption (15) 6.10pm Majorette in Soace: Five Gay Tales from France (18) 6.15pm Superb Silents: Muse-um Special Event (NC) 7.30pm Breathless (15) 8.40pm

PRINCE CHARLES Leicester Place WC2 (017)-437 8181) I Want You (18) 1pm Marquise (15) 3.40pm The Big Lebowski (18) 6.30pm Girls Town (15) 9pm

WATERMANS ARTS CENTRE High Street, Brentford (0181-568 1176) Buffalo 66 (15) 4.45pm Charac-ter (15) 6.45pm My Name is Joe

CINEMATHEQUE (01273-739970) Undercurrents (NC) 8pm

DUKE OF YORK'S (01273-602503) The Driver (NC) 2pm La Vie Revée des Anges (18) 4.15pm, 9pm Funny Games (18) 6.45pm

CUBE CINEMA (0114-907 4191) Faust (15) 7pm Black Orpheus (PG) 9.15pm

WATERSHED (0117-925 3845) My Name is Joe (15) from LEE on Tou South Dock (NC) 6.05pm Character (15) 8.20pm LFF on Tour: Brown's Requiem (NC) 8.30pm

CAMBRIDGE ARTS CINEMA (01223-504444) La Vie Revée des Anges (18) 12.45pm, 7.10pm Rien Ne Va Plus (15) 3pm, 9.15pm The Enigma of Kaspar

Hauser (15) 5pm **CHAPTER ARTS CENTRE (01222** 399666) Funny Games (18) 2.30pm, 8pm Topless Women Talk

About Their Lives (NC) 7.30pm FILM THEATRE (01473-215544)

La Grande Illusion (U) 6pm, 8.15pm A Soldier's Daughter Never Cries

CINEMA CITY (01603-622047) Full Metal Jacket (18) 5.45pm Velvet Goldmine (18) 8.15pm

TEWKESBURY ROSES THEATRE (01684-295074) Elizabeth (15) 7.30pm

CINEMA COUNTRYWIDE

ABC EAST STREET (01273-327010): Antz (PG): Les Mis-erables (12): Out of Sight (15): Rush Hour (18): Slums of Beverly Hills (15); Small Soldiers (PG) ODEON (01273-207977); Antz (PG); Blade (18); Elizabeth (15); If Only (15); Mulan (U); Out of Sight (15); Ronin (15); Rounders (15); Rush Hour (15); There's Something

VIRGIN (0541-555145); Antz (PG); Blade (18); Dr Dolittle (PG); Elizabeth (15); Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas (18); Godzilla (PG); Mulan (U); The Negotiator (15); Out of Sight (15); Rosh (15); Rhish Hour (15); Small Soldiers (PG); There's Expression About Most (15)

ething About Mary (15) ABC (0541-555178); Antz (PG);

Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas (18): For Richer or Poorer (12); Out of Sight (15); Rush Hour (15); Small Soldiers (PG); The Wicker

CAPITOL ODEON (08705-050007): Antz (PG); Bean (PG); Blade (18); The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) (18): The Negotiator (15): Out of Sight (15): Ronin (15): Rush Hour (15): Small Soldiers (PG)

ODEON (08705-050007); If Only (15); Mulan (U); There's Something About Mary (15) UCI 12 (0990-888990); Antz (<u>PG</u>):

Blade (18); Cousin Bette (15); Elizabeth (15); If Only (15); Les Misérables (12); Mulan (U); The Negotiator (15); Tim Burton's the Out of Sight (15); Ronin (15); Rush Hour (15); Slums of Beverly Hills (15); Small Soldiers (PG); Snake Eyes (15): The Soldier (Aslan Film) (NC); There's Something • LOVE UPON THE THRONE Tasteful look at the Charles and Diana marriage. Cornedy Panton Street, SW1 (0171-369 1731) About Mary (15)

THEATRE

WEST END

Ticket availability details are for today; times and prices for the week; running times include intervals. - Seats at all prices 🕽 — Seats at some prices O — Returns only Matiness — [1]: Sun, [3]: Tue, [4]: Wed, [5]: Thur, [6]: Fri. [7]: Sat

) ALARMS AND EXCURSIONS Michael Frayn's new comedy, about a dinner party which is interrupted by mysterious messages, stars Felicity Kendal and Josie Lawrence. Gielgud Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5065) & Picc Circ, Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5][7] 3pm, £19.50-£27,50, 130 mins.

• AMADEUS David Suchet stars as Salieri in Peter Shaffer's acclaimed drams. Old Vic The Cut. SE1 (0171-928 7616/cc 420 0000) BR/O Waterloo. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4] 2.30pm. [7] 3pm, £7.50-£30.

● ANNIE Rags-to-riches story of the optimistic orphan. Victoria Palace Victoria Street, SW1 (0171-834 1317) BR/O Victoria. Tue-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm, [1] 4pm, £7.50-£32.50, 165 mins.

ART Larry Lamb, Jack Dee, Tim Healy in Yasmina Reza's comedy about art and friendship. Wynd-ham's Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1736/cc 867 1111) © Leic Sq. Tue-Sat 8pm. [4] 3pm, [7][1] 5pm, £9.50-£27.50.90 mins.

• BEAUTY AND THE BEAST Lavish family musical based on Disney's cartoon version of the favourite fairy tale. Dominion Tot-tenham Court Road, W1 (0171-656 1888) → Tott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. [5][7] 2.30pm, £18.50-£35. 150 mins.

THE BEST OF TIMES Revuestyle show featuring the songs of Jerry Herman. Vaudeville Strand, WC2 (0171-836 9987) BR/O Charing X. Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat 8.30pm, [4][7] 3.30pm, £9.50-£27.50.

BLOOD BROTHERS Willy Russell's long-running Liverpool musi-cal melodrama. Phoenix Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1733)

• Leic Sq/Tott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat
7.45pm, [5] 3pm, [7] 4pm, £11.50£32.50, 165 mins.

) BLUEBIRD New drama telling the bleak and violent stories of a cabbie's fares, preceded by a new short, When Brains Don't Count. Royal Court Upstairs (at The Ambassadors) West Street, WC2 (0171-565 5000) & Leic Sq. 2 & 7 Dec. 9pm, 10p-£10, Mon - ali seats £5, double bill (7.15pm & 9pm perfor-mances on same night) £7.50-£15.

• BOOGIE NIGHTS Shane Richie stars in a new 1970s musical. Savoy Strand. WC2 (0171-836 B888/cc 836 0479) ← Charing X/Embank-ment. Mon-Thur 8pm. Fri-Sat 8.30pm, [6] 5.30pm, [7] 5pm, ends 9 Jan. £11-£28.50, 150 mins.

● BUDDY Musical biog-show tracing the brief life of Buddy Holly. Strand Aldwych, WC2 (0171-930 8800) → Covent Garden/Charing X. Tue-Thur 8pm, Fri 5.30pm & 8.30pm, Sat 5pm & 8.30pm, mats [1] 4pm, £10-£27, Fri mats half

CATS Lloyd Webber's musical version of TS Eliot's poems. New London Parker Street, WC2 (0171-405 0072/cc 404 4079) & Covent Garden/Holborn. Mon-Sat 7.45pm. [3][7] 3pm. £12.50-£35. 165 mins.

O CHICAGO Maria Friedman and Peter Davison star in this hit Broadway musical. Adelphi Malden Lane. WC2 (0171-344 0055) + Charing X. Mon-Sat 8pm, [4][7] 2.30pm. £16-£36 (incl booking fee). 130

Description of this fairy tale is staged by the acclaimed Improbable Theatre. Lyric Hammersmith King Street, W6 (0181-741 2311) → Hammersmith. Today 1.30pm, ends 9 Jan. £5-£18.

 THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE (ABRIDGED) Reduced Shakespeare Company fast-forwards through 37 plays. Criterion Piccadilly Circus, W1 (0171-369 1747) ◆ Picc Circ. Wed-Sat 8pm, [5] 3pm, [7] 5pm, [1] 4pm, £6-£25, Thur mats - all seats £10.

● DR DOLITTLE Phillip Schofield talks to the animals in this new stage adaptation featuring Jim Henon Puppets. London Apollo Hammersmith Oween Caroline Street, W6 (0171-416 6022) & Hammersmith. Tue-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm. E10-E32.50, 150 mins.

● FAME THE MUSICAL High-oc tane stage show charting the highs and lows of a class of young showhir hopefuls. Prince of Wales Coventry Street. W1 (0171-839 5972) & Leic Sq/Picc Circ. Mon-Thur 8pm, Fri 5.30pm & 8.30pm, Sat 4pm & 8pm,

ends 16 Jan, £15-£30. • GREASE Energetic stage version of the hit film about life in an American high school. Cambridge Eartham Street. WC2 (0171-494 5080) [4][7] 3pm, £10-£30.

DAN IDEAL HUSBAND Christo-pher Cazenove and Susannah York in Peter Hall's acclaimed production of Wilde's comedy Lyric Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5045) ➡ Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5] 3pm, [7] 4pm, £8-£29.50, 165 mins.

AN INSPECTOR CALLS Stephen Daldry's widely-acclaimed produc-tion of JB Priestley's thriller Garrick Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-494) 5085) & Leic Sq. Mon-Frl 7.45pm, 5at 8.15pm, [4] 2.30pm, [7] 5pm, £10.50-£25. 110 mins.

O INTO THE WOODS Sondheim and Lapine's acclaimed musical based on fairy tales. Donmar Ware ouse Earlham Street. WC2 (0171-369 1732) ← Covent Garden. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. [4][7] 2.30pm,

I THE INVENTION OF LOVE Tom Stoppard's play about the life of po-et AE Houseman, author of The Shropshire Lod. Theatre Royal, Haymarket Haymarket, SW1 (0171-930 8800) & Picc Circ. Tue-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm, £10-£32.50. 180 mins.

 KAFKA'S DICK Eric Sykes and Julia Mackenzie star in Alan Ben-nett's comedy about the moribund writer Piccadilly Denman Street, W1 (0171-369 1734) • Picc Circ.

7.45pm, mat today 1.30pm. £9.50-£15.50, concs available. Wote
 Picc Circ/Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 8pm,
 £9.50-£15.50, concs avail

 [4][7] 3pm, ends 31 Jan. £6-£25.
 Street (01256-465566)

) LES MISERABLES Musical dramatisation of Victor Hugo's masterpiece. Palace Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-434 0909) O Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [5][7] 2.30pm, £7-£35. 195 mins.

MISS SAIGON Musical which resets the Madam Butterfly tragedy to Vietnam. Theatre Royal, Drury Lane Catherine Street, WCZ (0171-Sat 7.45pm. [4][7] 3pm, £5.75-£35,

THE MOUSETRAP Agatha Christie's whodunnit St Martin's West Street, WC2 (0171-836 1443) O Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 8pm, [3] 2.45pm, [7] 5pm, £9-£23, 135 mins.

O THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA Andrew Lloyd Webber's Gothic musical Her Majesty's Hay-market, SW1 (0171-494 5400/cc 344 4444) & Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [4][7] 3pm, £10-£35, 150

PHEDRE Diana Rigg stars in Ted Hughes' new translation of Racine's PRENT Musical inspired by La Bo-

home and set in modern day New York Shaftesbury Shaftesbury Av-enue, WC2 (07000-211221) & Hol-born/fott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. [4][7] 3pm, £12.50-£32.50, 160 ROYAL NATIONAL THEATRE

O OLIVIER: Antony and Cleopa-tra Helen Mirren and Alan Rickman

star as the sensually self-destructive lovers. 2 & 3 Dec 7pm. 230 mins. ● LYTTELTON: The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie Fiona Shaw stars as the Scottish schoolmistress in this new adaptation of the classic novel by Munici Spark in rep, tonight 7.30pm, ends 12 Dec. 155 mins.

O COTTESLOE: Copenhagen New drama from Michael Frayn about the discovery of the atom. Tonight 7.30pm, ends 27 Jan. 145 mins, Olivier & Lyttelton: £8-£27. Cottes-loe: £12-£19. Day seats from 10am. South Bank, SE1 (0171-452 3000).

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY THE BARBICAN: The Merchant of Venice RSC production of Shakeare's drama about love and money. Tonight 7.15pm. 180 mins.

THE PIT: Shadows: Riders to The Sea & The Shadow of the Glen & Purgatory Triple-bill of drama by WB Yeats and JM Synge. Tonight 7.15pm. continuing. Barbican Theatre: £5-£26. The Pic: 11-£18.50. Barbican Centre, EC2 (0171-638 8891). BR/O Barbican/Moorgate.

O SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER Hit 1970s musical featuring legendary songs by the Bee Gees and starring Adam Garcia. London Palladium Argyll Street, W1 (0171-494 5020) Oxford Circ. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. [4][7] 2.30pm, £10-£32.50.

STARLIGHT EXPRESS Andrew Lloyd Webber's hi-tech roller-musical. Apollo Victoria Wilton Road. SW1 (0171-416 6070) BR/\(\Theta\) Victoria. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [3][7] 3pm, £12.50-£30. 150 mins.

THINGS WE DO FOR LOVE Belinda Lang stars in Alan Ayekbourn's comedy. Duchess Catherine Street, WC2 (0171-494 5075/cc 344 4444) & Covent Garden. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5][7] 3pm, £15-£27.50, 140 mins.

TRADE Depiction of a dysfunctional family from Richard Oberg. Preceded by a short, in the Family. Royal Court Upstairs (at The Ambassadors) West Street, WC2 (0171-565 5000) ← Leic Sq. 2, 7-12 Dec. 7.15pm, 10p-£10, Mon all seats £5, double bill (7.15pm & 9pm performances on same night)

THE WEIR Conor McPherson's drama is set in Ireland and examines ideas of ghosts and angels. Royal Court Downstairs (at the Duke Of York's) St Martin's Lane. WC2 (0171-565 5000) & Leic Sq/Char-3.30pm, £5-£25. 90 mins.

WEST SIDE STORY New production of Bernstein's classic mus cal, attempting to recreate the feel of the original Broadway hit. Prince Edward Old Compton Street, W1 (0171-447 5400) + Leic Sq/Tott Ct d. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, (5)[7] 3pm,

£15-£35, 160 mins. O WHISTLE DOWN THE WIND Joyd Webber's new musical based on the film of the same name. Ald-wych Aldwych. WC2 (0171-416 6000/cc 836 2428) ↔ Holbe Mon-Sat 7.45pm. [5][7] 3pm. £10-

Susan Hill's chilling ghost story. For-tune Russell Street. WC2 (0171-836 2238/cc 344 4444) @ Covent Garden/Holborn. Mon-Sat 8pm. [3] 3pm. [7] 4pm. £8.50-£23.50.

THEATRE BEYOND THE WEST END

ALMEIDA THEATRE The Storm Prank McGuinness' new version of Ostrovsky's upiffting drama. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. mats Sat 3pm, ends 19 Dec. £6.50-£19.50. Almeida Street. N1 (0171-359 4404) & Angel/High

CANAL CAFE THEATRE Silent Night Steven Berkoff's tale of Christ-mas loneliness receives its stage premiere. Tue-Sat 8pm, ends 12 Dec. £6, concs £4. Bridge House Pub, De-lamere Terrace, W2 (0171-289 6054) ◆ Royal Oak/Warwick Avenue.

HAMPSTEAD THEATRE Little Malcolm and His Struggle Against The Eunuchs Ewan McGregor stars as the revolutionary activist in David Hallwell's drama. Mon-Sat 8pm, mars Sat 3.30pm, ends 2 Jan. £9-

(0171-722 9301) @ Swiss Cottage. Two Weddings and a Funeral Stage version of a Bollywood blockbuster. Mon-Sat 8pm, mat today 1.30pm, ends 5 Dec. £9. concs £5. Kin Street, W6 (0181-741 2311)

O Hammersmith.

THEATRE COUNTRYWIDE

BASINGSTOKE HAYMARKET THEATRE Lord of the Flies Stage version of William Golding's classic tale of schoolboys living on a deserted island. 2-5 Dec.

resilience in our songs. If you see life as an epic story, rather than something meaningless, even the low points are life-affirming." Their career definitely is on the up. LA2, Charing Cross Road, London W1 (0171-343 0403)

FOLLOWING THE lead of Nicole Kidman and Emily

Woof, it's now the turn of Rufus Sewell (right) to explore

sexuality on stage in Macbeth. The smouldering Sewell,

star of such films as The Woodlanders. Cold Comfort

Form and Hamlet, will undoubtedly bring slithering

charm to the title role, but his acting mettle will be

tested to the full opposite Sally Dexter who stars as his

Queen's Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, London W1

SPRINGING BACK into action in spectacular style after

being dropped by their record label, Rialto are tipped

by many as a band with a big future. In 1992, they had

two independent hits and supported the Manic Street

Preachers, while in 1993, an eponymous debut album

established their reputation for sweeping melodic strings

and laconic charm. "There's always a certain amount of

scheming lady wife. Directed by John Crowley.

(0171-494 5040) opens 24 Feb

THEATRE ROYAL Popcorn Emma Noble stars in Ben Elton's satire on cinema violence. 2 Dec. 7.30pm. 3 Dec. 8pm. 4 & 5 Dec. 6pm & 9pm. £11-£21, concs available. Sawciose (01225-448844) RATH

BLANDFORD FORUM BRYANSTON ARTS CENTRE Robin Hood and the Enchanted Forest The Merry Men encounter magic and maybem in Sherwood Forest. Today 10.30am & 2.30pm, ends 5 Dec. £6. concs £5.50. Bryanston (01258-456533)

First Call

Last Call

BRIGHTON THEATRE ROYAL The Woman in Black Frank Finlay stars in a chill-ing adaptation of Susan Hill's high-ly acclaimed novel. 2-5 Dec. 7.45pm. £7.50-£15.50, concs avail Street (01273-328488)

KOMEDIA The Prince of West End Avenue Kerry Shale plays 14 characters in his adaptation of Alan Ish-ler's play about life in a New York Jewish retirement home. Tonight 8.30pm, £7.50, concs £6. Gardner Street (01273-277772)

BRISTOL NEW VIC STUDIO Disco Pigs Acclaimed contemporary love story from Enda Walsh. 2 Dec. 7.30pm. 3-5 Dec, 8pm. £9, concs £6. King Street (0117-987 7877)

THEATRE ROYAL A Christmas Carol Andy Hay's adaptation of Dick-ens's Christmas classic. Mon-Wed 7.30pm, Thur-Sat 8pm, mais Thu & Sat. 2.30pm, ends 5 Dec. £5-£19. concs £3-£16. King Street (0117-987 7877)

CARDIFF SHERMAN THEATRE The Secret Seven Save the World New adven-ture, courtesy of Enid Blyton, and set in 1999. Today 10am & 2pm, ends 9 Jan. £6-£10, concs available. Speed the Piow David Mamet's ex-bilarating story about two film ex-ecutives who have just 24 hours to cast a new action movie, 2 & 3 Dec.

8pm. £8. Senghenydd Road (01222-230451) COLCHESTER MERCURY THEATRE The Complete (Abridged) Reduced Shakespeare Company fast-forwards through 37 plays. 2 Dec. 7.30pm, 3-5 Dec. 8pm. £6.50-£15.50, concs available. Balk-

erne Gate (01206-573948) DARTFORD ORCHARD THEATRE The Taming of the Shrew Battle of the sexes comedy from English Touring The-

Home Gardens (01322-220000)

HEMEL HEMPSTEAD OLD TOWN HALL ARTS CENTRE Stranded Powerful tale inspire Ugo Betti's Crime on Goot Isl Tonight 8pm. £7, concs £5. High Street (01442-228091)

NOLSEY THEATRE Macbeth Wolsey Theatre's production is giv-en a post nuclear holocaust setting Tue-Fri 7.45pm, Sat 8pm, mars Wed & Sat 2.30pm, ends 5 Dec. E5-£14. concs available. Civic Drive (01473-

MILTON KEYNES STANTONBURY CAMPUS THE-ATRE Beggar's Belief New piece from Trestle Theatre inspired by the paintings of Breugel. 2 & 3 Dec. 7.30pm. £8. concs £4. Purbeck Way.

WATERMILL THEATRE The Wizar of Oz Follow Dorothy and her friends down the Yellow Brick Road, Today 2.30pm & 7pm. ends 16 Jan. £9.50-£14, concs available. Bagn-

THE MILL AT SONNING Worm's Eye View Comedy about a wartime landlady forced to house airmen and attentions. Tue-Sat 8.15pm, mat Sat 2.15pm, ends 9 Jan. £21.95-£32.95 incl meal. Sonning Eye (0118-969

SOUTHAMPTON MAYFLOWER THEATRE The Rocky Horror Show Jason Donovan stars in the 25th-anniversary tour of the classic rock riroll musical, 2 & 3 Dec 8pm. 4 & 5 Dec. 5pm & 9pm. £10-£22. concs available. Com Road (01703-711811)

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON ROYAL SHAKESPEARE THEATRE The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe Adrian Noble directs Adrian Mitchell's adaptation of the CS Lewis Namia classic. Today 1.30pm & 7.15pm, ends 27 Feb. £5-£30. Waterside (01789-295623)

SWAN THEATRE A Month in the

Country Brian Friel's adaptation of

Turgeney's portrait of all-consum

sexual desire. Tonight 7.30pm, ends 20 Feb. £5-£30. Waterside (01789-NEW VICTORIA THEATRE Smokey Joe's Cafe - The Songs of Leiber and Stoller The rock and roll hit-makers celebrated in a musical revue that includes "Jailhouse Rock".

2, 3 & 5 Dec. 8pm. 4 Dec. 6pm & 8.45pm. £7-£22.50. Peacocks Arts

(01483-761144)

Entertainments Centre

EXHIBITIONS

HOLBURNE MUSEUM AND CRAFTS STUDY CENTRE Master Weaver: Peter Collingwood Majo exhibition exploring Collingwood innovative work. Mon-Sat 11am-5pm, Sun 2.30pm-5.30pm. ends 11 Dec. £3.50. OAP £3, UB40/60+£2, child £1.50, family £7 (to museum). Great Pulteney Street (01225-

BRIGHTON FABRICA HALO: Simon Biggs Installation projecting digital figu-rative images. Wed-Sat 11.30am-5pm, Sun 2pm-5pm, ends 13 Dec,

free. Duke Street (01273-778646) GARDNER ARTS CENTRE Animal Farm: Raiph Steadman Commis sioned drawings illustrating Orwell's novel. Mon-Sun 10am-6pm, ends 5 Dec. free. University of Sussex, Lewes Road (01273-685861)

CAMBRIDGE FITZWILLIAM MUSEUM From Polidoro to Salvator Rosa Draw Policion to Salvator Rosa Draw-ings and prints forming the best of Italian Baroque. Ends 23 Dec. British Watercolours from the Oppe Collection Including works by Turner and Constable. Ends 24 Jan. The Society of Three: Whistler, Fantin-Latour and Alphonse Legros Ex-amining the common stylistic ground of the three artists. Tue-Sat 10am-5pm. Sun 2.15pm-5pm, ends 14 Feb. free. Trumpington Street (01223-332900)

LONDON BARBICAN ART GALLERY Native Nations: Journeys in American Photography Over 500 works de-picting Native North Americans by Native and non-Native photographers. Mon. Thur-Sat 10am-6.45pm. Tue 10am-5.45pm, Wed 10am-7.45pm, Sun 12noon-6.45pm, ends 13 Dec. £6 (£4.50 after 5pm Mon-

ICA GALLERY Die Young Stay Pretty Sculpture, collage, paintings and cut outs by 11 young artists. Mon-Sun 12noon-7.30pm, ends 10 Jan. £1.50, concs £1, Sat-Sun £2.50, concs £1.50. The Mall, SWI (0171-930 3647) → Charing Cross.

NATIONAL GALLERY Mirror Image: Jonathan Miller On Reflection Mirrors and reflections in art from Van Eyck to Helen Chadwick, Ends 13 Dec. £5.50, concs £3.50, incl audio guide. Luca Signorelli in British Collections Drawings and paintings by the artist. Mon & Tue. Thur-Sat 10am-6pm,

Wed 10am-8pm, Sun 12noon-6pm, ends 31 Jan, free, Trafalgar Square, WC2 (0171-839 3321) & Charing ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS Critical Mass: Antony Gormley Sody casts of human bodies. Mon-Sun all day, ends 16 Dec., free

Picasso: Painter and Sculptor in Clay Exploring the ceramic works of the 20th-century artist. Ends 16 Dec. £7. OAP/UB40 £6. NUS £5, child 12-18 £2.50, child 8-11 £1 Life? or Theatre?: the Work of Charlotte Salomon Powerful paint-ings made between 1940 and 1942. Mon-Thur. Sat & Sun 10am-6pm, Fri 10am-8.30pm, ends 17 Jan, £5.50, UB40/OAP £4.50, NUS £4, child 12-18 £2.50. child 8-11 £1. Burlington

House, Piccadilly, W1 (0171-300 8000) & Green Park. TATE GALLERY In Celebration: The Art of the Country House Paintings and sculpture, including work by Canaletto, Stubbs and Holbein. Ends 28 Feb. free. Turner Prize 1998 Work by Chris Ofili, Cathy De Monchaux, Tacita Dean and Sam Taylor-Wood, Ends 10

Jan. £1,50. John Singer Sargent Comprehen-sive exhibition devoted to the paintings of the 19th-century artist. Ends 7 Jan. £6. concs £4. Art Now 16: Something is Miss ing - Jean-Marc Bustai stallation exploring international cities in photographs. Opens 1 Dec. Mon-Sun 10am-5.50pm, ends Jan

31, free. Millbank. SW1 (0171-887 8000) ₱ Pimlico. VICTORIA AND ALBERT MUSEUM Aubrey Beardsley The illustrator's life and work explored in 200 drawings and prints. Ends 10 Jan. Grinling Gibbons and the Art of Carving Work by the 17th-century

woodcarver. Ends 24 Jan.
Picasso's Ladies: Wendy Ramshaw
Precious-metal jewellery. Ends 15 Elsewhwere - Photographs From the Americas and Asia: Henri Cartier-Bresson Lesser-known subjects by the 90 year-old photog-rapher. Mon 12 noon-5.45pm, Tue-Sun 10am-5.45pm, ends 12 Apr. £5. concs £3. under 18s/UB40/mems/disabled/NUS/after 4.30pm free. Cromwell Road, SW7 (0171-938 8441) + South

Kensington. ST IVES TATE GALLERY English Roots: Eric Cameron Layers of paint surrounding organic objects. Displays 1998-9: Partnerships and Practice Works from the second half of the century. Quoit Montserrat: Veronica Ryan Marble sculpture linking St Ives with Montserrat in the West Indies.

Mon-Sat 11am-7pm, Sun 11am-5pm, ends 11 Apr. £3.50, concs £2.

CLASSICAL

LONDON BARBICAN HALL Choir of King's College, Cambridge/Cleobury Requiem settings by Rutter and Faure, Yoright 7.30pm. £7-£22. Bar-bican Centre, EC2 (0171-638 8891) → Moorgate/Barbican.

FIRST CALL, LAST CALL

WIGMORE HALL isabelle Faust Violin recital of Mendelssohn, Beethoven and Prokofiev Sonatas. Tonight 7.30pm. £8-£15. Wigmore Street, W1 (0171-935 2141) → Bond Street/Oxford Circus.

WESSEX HALL, POOLE ARTS CEN-TRE Bournemouth Symphony Or-chestra/Schirmer Grieg's Piano Concerto, played by Anya Alexeyev, with Bruckner's 6th Symphony. Tonight 7.30pm. E6-£24. Kingland Road (01202-685222/cc 674234)

OPERA

LONDON THE GLADYS CHILD THEATRE countrie Gilbert and Sullivan's comic classic in a production by Southgate College Opera. Tonight 7.30pm. £7-£9. High Street, Southgate. N14 (0181-350 5772) & Southgate

LONDON COLISEUM Boris Godunov Mussorgsky's epic in a new English National Opera production directed by Francesca Zambello. Tonight 7.30pm. £5-£55. St. Mar-Lane. WC2 (0171-632 8300) ◆ Leicester Square/Charing Cross.

DANCE

GARDNER ARTS CENTRE Richard Aiston Dance Company: Triple Bill Includes the new work Red Run comnissioned by the Holland Dance

Festival. Tonight 7.45pm. £8-£10, concs £1.50 off. University of Sus-sex. Lewes Road (01273-685861) WYCOMBE SWAN Rambert Dance Company: Triple Bill Jiri Kylian's No More Play, Ohad Naharin's Azioma 7 and a new work from Christopher Bruce. Tonight 8pm. £10.50-£19. St. Mary's Street (01494-512000)

ROUNDHOUSE Stomp Eight performers create a witty rhythmic symphony. Tue-Sat Bpm, mats Sat & Sun 4pm, ends 27 Dec. £10-£25.

Chalk Farm Road, NW1 (0171-420 00001 & Chalk Farm

LITERATURE DAVID ATTENBOROUGH SIGN-ING The renowned naturalist signs copies of The Life of Birds, the book accompanying his BBC1 series. Books Etc. Fenchurch Street EC3

(171-481 4425) C Bank. Today 12.30pm-1,30pm, Free. DANNIE ABSE AND DUNCAN BUSH The local poet reads from his latest collection, Arcadia, One Mile. Waterstone's Hampstead High Street NW3 (0171-794 1098)

INTERNATIONAL LITERARY FESTIVAL: P.J. O'ROURKE O'Rourke entertains with his views on life and the American way. The Arthur Miller Centre UEA (01603-592277) Tonight 7pm.

£3.50, concs £2. COMEDY

ABERYSTWYTH LEE HURST - UN-IRONED AT ABERYSTWYTH ARTS CENTRE The former star of They Think It's All Over. Tonight 8pm, £10. Penglais (01970-623232)

CAMERIDGE AL MURRAY - KEEPER OF THE PINT COSMIC AT THE JUNCTION As The Pub Landlord, three times Perrier award nominee. Tonight 8.30pm. £7, concs £5. Clifton Road (01223-511511)

THE LEAGUE AGAINST TEDIUM AT ICA Simon Munnery's scoroful alter ego. Tonight 8.30pm. phone for prices. The Mall, SWI (0171-930 3647) O Charing Cross.

BRIGHTON BULLIT AT HONEY CLUB Big beat, funk and more. Tonight 10pm-2.30am, free. King's Road Arches (01273-202807)

CLUBS

LÖNDON FRESH'N'FUNKY AT THE HANOVER GRAND G funk, R&B, soul, 1980s club classics and disco. Tonight 10.30pm-3.30am, Hanover Street, W1 [0171-499 7977] Oxford Circus, £5, £3 before

EVENTS

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RATH CHRISTMAS AT CLAVERTON EXHIBITION See how Americans traditionally decorated their homes at Christmas, from the New England Puritans to New Orleans during the Civil War. American Museum in Britain Claverton Manor (01225-460503) Tue-Sun 1pm-4pm. £3.

LONDON THE GREAT CHALLENGE 1998 International political cartoon exhibition, in aid of Amnesty International, Index on Censorship and the Cartoon Art Trust. The Gallery, Oxo Tower Wharf ground floor Barge-house Street SE1 (0171-928 6193) Waterloo. Mon-Sun 10am-6pm. ends 23 Dec. free (donations wel-

SWINDON COUNTRY HOUSE CHRISTMAS A chance to see a Victorian style Christ-mas with the State Rooms decked in greenery gathered from the Park. Ly-diard House Lydiard Country Park (01793-770401) Mon-Fri 10æm-1pm. 2pm-4pm, Sat 10am-4pm, San 2pm-4pm, ends 31 Dec. 80p, child 30p.

MUSIC BOURNEMOUTH

HANK MARVIN Tour for the ageing guitarist, playing In and Out of the

tional Centre Exeter Road (01202-456456) Tonight 7.30pm. £10.50-£14.50. KING'S LYNN LEVELLERS, THE CROCKETTS The counter-culture driving folk-rock

heroes, playing the hits on their One Way of Life tour. Corn Exchange Market Place (01553-764864) Tonight 7.30pm. £12. LONDON HEFNER, THE YUMMY FUR Tasty unusual bill, with laconic alt-pop trio and Scottish punk kittens in support.

(0171-607 1818) BR/O Highbury & Islington, Tonight 8pm, £6. ONE LADY OWNER, DARK STAR The new Creation signings tour their car-obsessed rock'n'roll. Water Rats

Theatre Gray's Inn Road WC1 (0181-885 6488) & King's Cross. onight 8.30pm. £5. concs £4. PORTSMOUTH TOM JONES The charismatic Welshman still wows the ladies, while sliping easily into a more contempora proove for his new paymasters Gut Records. The Guildhall Guildhall

Square (01705-824355) Tonight DRUGSTORE, ANNIE CHRISTIAN Slack pop and huge choruses from the unique trio, blending Brazilian chanteuse Isabel's scorching vocals with wit and sincerity. Wedgewood Rooms Albert Road, Southsea (01705-863911) Tonight 7.30pm,

MUSIC

JAZZ, WORLD, FOLK RIGHTON JULIAN ARGUELLES OCTET Saxist composer leads top flight con-temporary eight piece. Sallis Benney Theatre Grand Parade (01273-709709) Tonight 8pm. £9.

ious collaborations to his credit, touring a new album, thedreamso-ciety. The Toucan Castle Street (01222-215481) Tonight 8pm, £10. ROY AYERS' UBIQUITY Vibes stro much loved by the acid-jazz

ROY HARPER Cult English song

writer with over 30 albums and var-

CARDIFF

set, Jazz Cafe Parkway NW1 (0171. 916 6060) & Camden To Martin Taylor/Birelli La-GRENE Virtuoso guitarists play in a Diangoesque vein. Pizza Express Jazz Club Dean Street W1 (0171-

439 8722) O Tottenham Court Road. Tonight 9pm, £20. SPIRIT OF THE TRADITION Unique folk supergroup comprising Maddy Prior, Kathryn Tickell, Jacqui Mc-Shee and John Renbourn. Queen Elizabeth Hall South Bank Centre SEI (0171-960 4242) BR/O Waterloo. Tonight 8pm. £9.50-£13.

JOHN WILSON STRINGS/SARAH MOULE Stylish vocals accompanied by smooth strings. Pizza on the Park Knightsbridge SW1 (0171-235 5273) ⊕ Hyde Park Corner, Tonight 9.15pm & 11.15pm, £18, adv £16,

Norwegian sax legend performs from his ECM CD Rites. Royal Festhal Hall South Bank SE1 (0171-960 4242) BR/& Waterloo, Tonight 7.30pm, £10-£26. YEOVIL BBC BIG BAND Barry Forgie's

JAN GARBAREK GROUP Ethereal

band of swing stalwarts. Octagon Theatre Hendford (01935-422884) onight 7.30pm, £12.50.

 $\text{Y}\,\text{REVIEW}$

VENTS

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WEDNESDAY RADIO

(97.6-99.8MHz FM) 6.30 Zoe Ball. 9.00 Simon Mayo. 12.00 Kevin Greening. 2.00 Mark Radcliffe. 4.00 Chris Moyles. 5.45 Newsbeat. 6.00 Dava Pearce 8.00 Steve Lamacq - the Evening Session, 10.00 Movie Update with Mark Kermode. 10.10 John Peel. 12.00 Gilles Peterson.

2.00 Cive Warren 4.00 - 6.30 RADIO 2 (88-90.2MHz FM) 6.00 Sarah Kennedy. 7.30 Wake

Up to Wogan. 9.30 Ken Bruce. 12.00 John Inverdale. 2.00 Ed Stewart. 5.05 Johnnie Walker. 7.00 Nick Barraclough. 8.00 Mike Harding 9.00 The Andy Peebles Soul Show, 10.00 Radio 2 Classic Albums: 10.30 Richard Allinson. 11.45 Following My Star. 12.00 Lynn Parsons. 3.00 - 4.00 Alex

RADIO 3 (90.2-92.4MHz FM) **6.00** On Air. 10.30 Artist of the Week. 11.00 Sound Stories. 12.00 Composer of the Week: Mozart.

1.00 The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert (FI) 2.00 The BBC Orchestras. 4.00 Choral Evensong. 5.00 in Tune.

7.30 Performance on 3. Conductor Kenneth Montgomery, Therese Feighan (mezzo), Hugh Tinney (piano). Falla: El amor brujo; Nights in the Gardens of Spain; Suite: Homenajes; The Three-Cornered Hat Suites Nos 1 and 2.

9.05 Postscript. Five monologues about women, 3: 'Philomena'. Played by Val Lilley. Away from her homeland. Philomena realises that life has passed her by. 9.15 Robert Woolley. Harpsichord

recital. Froberger: Toccata No 3 in G; Suite No 14 in G minor. Bach: Partita No 5 in G, BWV829. (R) 10.00 Ensemble Haydn dedicated most of his published works to titled and influential patrons. Beethoven followed his example,

despite his forward-looking ideals, but Mozart was largely uninterested in currying favour. In the first of two programmes, Penny Gore inPICK OF THE DAY

mountaineer, educationalist and poet, is sadly now almost a forgotten figure – perhaps his most enduring legacy is The Manhunt, a three-day game of hare and hounds played in the Lake District, which he started back in 1898. In this morning's feature, Manhunt (11am R4), Richard Coles examines this eccentric, beguiling, charming

GEOFFREY WINTHROP YOUNG figure, and his work as one of the founding fathers of British climbing - his achievements included a second ascent of the Matterhorn after he'd lost a leg in the First World War.

A Life Worth Living (8pm R4) is an interesting debate on disability and whether genetic engineering is a blessing, or a judgement on people's value. ROBERT HANKS



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vestigates the niceties of musical patronage. Haydn: String Quartet in G, Op 76 No 1. Prazak Quartet. Beethoven: Variations on a Theme 5.57 Weather of Count Waldstein. Anthony Goldstone and Caroline Clemmow (pi-

ano duet). 10.45 Night Waves. From Stubbs to Damien Hirst, animals have always been portrayed and displayed by artists to provide as much of a comment on human society as upon the natural world. Laura Cumming explores the relationship between art and animals in contemporary art and discusses the new Channel 4 television series 'The Truth about Art'. And Bill Buford delivers his regluar letter on cultural life across the Atlantic. 11.30 Jazz Notes.

12.00 Composer of the Week: Josquin. (R) 1.00 - 6.00 Through the Night.

RADIO 4 (92.4-94.6MHz FM) **6.00** Today. 9.00 NEWS; Midweek. 9.45 Serial: Barrow's Boys. 10.00 NEWS; Woman's Hour. 11.00 NEWS; Manhunt. See Pick of the Day. 11.30 Funny Bones. 12.00 NEWS; You and Yours. **12.57** Weather. 1.00 The World at One. **1.30** Wildbrain.

2.00 NEWS; The Archers. 2.15 The Golden Triangle. 3.00 NEWS; Gardeners' Question 3.30 Songlines. 3.45 Gregory's Leap

4.00 NEWS; Case Notes. 4.30 Thinking Allowed.

6.00 Six O'Clock News **6.30** Booked. 7.00 NEWS; The Archers. 7.15 Front Row, Mark Lawson

chairs the arts programme. In this edition, he delivers his verdict on The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe', CS Lewis's classic for children, as staged by the Royal Shakespeare Company. 7.45 Still Waters. Part 18 by Ann Marie Di Mambro and Cally Phillips. Kate's birthday looms and Charlie has a proposal. Meanwhile, an encounter with the mysterious Viska has a profound effect on Douglas, and Frankie Callaghan

has big plans for Joanna. With Ann Scott-Jones, Emma Currie and Liam Brennan. Director David Jackson Young. 8.00 NEWS; A Life Worth Living. Disabled people are concerned

that scientists, carried away by the possibilities of genetic research, are making dangerous judgments about a person's value to society. Peter White chairs a debate about the subject between disabled people and leading scientists. See Pick of the Day. 8.45 Better than Sex. Four writers

sensual experience which gives them intense pleasure. 3: Maura Dooley on Invitations on the Man-9.00 NEWS; Costing the Earth. Five years ago, nations surround-

celebrate a single, readily available

ing the North Sea were shamed by a report describing how they were polluting their own back yard, and Britain came in for particular criticism. But Brussels - the city which is pointing the finger - turns out to be another of the worst offenders. 9.30 Midweek. Libby Purves and guests engage in lively conversa-

10.00 The World Tonight. 10.45 Book at Bedtime: Another World, in Pat Barker's new novel, a fractious family and a dying soldier reveal the past's power to haunt and distort the present. Abridged by Doreen Estall, read by Robert Glenister (8/10).

11.00 Children's Hour.. with Armstrong and Miller. Ben Miller and Alexander Armstrong write and star in their first full-length comedy series, in which Martin Bain-Jones and Craig Children present a frightfully clever pop culture show on Radio 4. With Charlie Condou

and Melissa Lloyd 11.30 Radio Shuttleworth. 12.00 News. 12.30 The Late Book: A Man in

12.48 Shipping Forecast. 1.00 As World Service. 5.30 World News. **5.35** Shipping Forecast. **5.40** Inshore Forecast.

5.45 Prayer for the Day. 5.47 - 6.00 Farming Today. **RADIO 4 LW**

9.45 - 10.00 Daily Service. 12.00 - 12.04 News Headlines; Shipping Forecast, 5.54 - 5.57 Shipping Forecast. 11.30 - 12.00 Today in Parliament,

RADIO 5 LIVE (693, 909kHz MW) 6.00 Breakfast 8.30 Test Match Special. 9.30 Nicky Campbell 12.00 The Midday News. 1.00 Ruscoe and Co. 4.00 Drive. 7.00 News Extra. 7.30 John Inverdale's Football

Night. Featuring coverage of all the night's action, including the Worthington Cup fifth round. Plus the National Lottery Draw. 10.00 Littlejohn. Football phone-in with Richard Littlejohn: 0500 909693.

11.00 Late Night Live. With Nick Robinson. Including a late news briefing at 11.00, and at 11.15 The Financial World Tonight and a topical late-night discussion. 1.00 Up All Night.

5.00 - 6.00 Morning Reports. CLASSIC FM (100.0-101.9MHz FM)

6.00 Nick Bailey. 8.00 Henry Kel-ly. 12.00 Requests. 2.00 Concerto. 3.00 Jamie Crick. 6.30 Newsnight. 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven. 9.00 Evening Concert. 11.00 Alan Mann, 2.00 Concerto. 3.00 - 6.00 Mark Griffiths.

VIRGIN RADIO (1215, 1197-1260kHz MW 105.8MHz FM) 6.30 Chris Evans. 9.30 Russ Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00 Bobby Hain FM only Harriet Scott from 6.45. 7.30 Harriet Scott. 10.00 Mark Forrest. 1.00 James Merritt. 4.30-6.30 Jeremy Clark.

WORLD SERVICE RADIO (198kHz LW) 1.00 Newsdesk, 1.30 Omnibus. 2.00 Newsday. 2.30 Meridian (Books). 3.00 World News. 3.05 World Business Report. 3.15 Sports Roundup. 3.30 Brain of Britain. 4.00 - 7.00 The World

Today. TALK RADIO 7.00 Bill Overton and Kirsty Young. 9.00 Scott Chisholm. 11.00 Lorraine Kelly. 1.00 Anna Raeburn. 3.00 Tommy Boyd. 5.00 Peter Deeley. 7.00 Nick Abbot.

9.00 James Whale. 1.00 lan

Collins. 5.00 - 7.00 Early Show.

INDEPENDENT PURSUITS

CHESS JON SPEELMAN

YESTERDAY, I gave (arguably) Kasparov's best game from his blitz match with Kramnik over the weekend. Today it's Kramnik's turn. In contrast to Kasparov, Kramnik is rather conservative in his opening play, particularly as White. He started with two 4 Qc2 Nimzo Indians -1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e6 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 Qc2; but as I explained yesterday, this is one of Kasparov's favourite lines as White and Kasparov won both

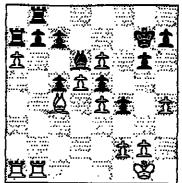
For his remaining 10 Whites, Kramnik therefore retreated back into his shell, starting with his habitual 1 Nf3 and then fighting a transpositional battle to get the best he could out of whatever opening Kasparov chose to throw at

It was a varied diet, with five Slavs starting 1 Nf3 d5 2 d4 Nf6 3 c4 c6 followed by three Queen's Gambit Exchange Variations, all of which started 1 Nf3 d5 2 d4 Nf6 3 c4 e6 4 Nc3 c6 5 Bg5 Nbd7 6 cxd5 exd5 7 e3 Be7, with a Grunfeld thrown in after the first of these latter three. Kramnik scored well against all, not losing a single game and winning four: two Slavs and one against each of the others.

But before any of these, in game 6 Kasparov had tried what used to be one of his most fearsome weapons, the King's Indian Defence: an experiment he did not re-

Instead of 12... f5 - Kramnik had faced the less weakening 12... Bh6 three times in 1996 and 1997, scoring two draws against Topalov and a win against Van Wely Kasparov's more forcing but also weakening choice suggests that he isn't 19 Qxd8 Rxd8 very comfortable in this position.

18... f4 prevented a later exf5 followed by Bxb7, but was rather ugly. But instead of the horrible 26... b6? in the diagram, ossifying his position, he could still have tried 26... jspeelman@compuserve.com



Rba8, when if 27 axb7 Rxa1 28 Bf1 Rb8 29 Rxa1 Rxb7 Black is fighting since 30 Ra8 Rb1 31 Rd8 c4 is too

The rest was slow strangulation. In the final position 43 Rdd3 followed by 44.Rxf3 wins easily.

> White: Vladimir Kramnik Black: Gary Kasparov ICC 1998

Kings Indian Defence 1 Nf3 Nf6 24 a6 Bd6 2 c4 g6 25 b4 Kg7 3 Nc3 Bg7 26 Bc4 (see 4 e4 d6 diagram) b6? 27 Bb5 h6 6 Be2 e5 28 Kf1 Rf8 7 0-0 Nc6 29 Ke2 Rf6 8 d5 Ne7 30 Rb3 Kf8 31 Rh3 Ke7 10 Ba3 axb4 32 Kd3 Kf8 11 Bxb4 Nd7 33 Kc4 Kg7 12 a4 f5 34 Bc6 Kf8 13 Ng5 Nc5 35 Kb5 Kg7 14 Bxc5 dxc5 36 Bb7 Kf8 15 Bf3 Ra6 37 Rg1 Ke7 16 a5 Kb8 38 g3 f3 17 Ne6! Bxe6 39 Rc1 Kd8 18 dxe6 f4 40 Rc3 h5 41 Rb1 Ke7 20 Rfb1 Rb8 42 Rd1 Black 21 Nd5 Nxd5 resigns 1-0 22 cxd5 Bf8

Game all; dealer North

North

23 Be2 Ra7

SATELLITE AND CABLE

PICK OF THE DAY

SKY PYCENMEN

6.00 Mystery Science Theatre 3000: the

Movie (1996) (91227). 6.00 Karate Kid il

MOSE (1995). 40.00 Stormchaser - Re-(1986) (92555). 10.00 Stormchaser - Revenge of the Twister (1998) (83840). 12.00

Mystery Science Theatre S000; the Movie (1996) (20956). 2.00 Joseph - Pari 1 (1995) DESPITE THE success of the (10pm FilmFour), a 1994 update (34956). 3.30 The Elf Who:Didn't Believe" (1997) (41531). 5.30 Stormchaser - Revenge of the Twister (1995) (553685). **8.00** To Gazan on Her 37th Birthday (1996) (73424). **10.00** Gla (1996) (69799). **12.80** Fargo (1995) (118222). **1.40** The Perez Family (1995) (304626). **3.35** - **6.00** Some Mother's Son (1996) (21584609). 6.00 Coyota Summer (1996) (79645005).

7.45 White Dwarf (1995) (258840). 9.15 Address Unknown (1996) (44355227). 11.00 Ebirah - Horror of the Deep (1966) (30579), 1.00 White Dwarf (1995) (23043). 2.00 Address Unknown (1996) (16550). 5.00 Place against the Harvest (1987) (38802). 7.00 Coyote Summer (1996) (45444507). 8.50 White Squal (1996) 52220685) #LOO Registers behind Rers (1995) (835260), 12.35 Cupid (1996) (642999), 2.50 Big Trouble in Little China (1986) (450067), **3.50 - 6.00** For Queen and Country (1988) (59091749).

SKY CINEMA 4.00 Hotel Reserve (1944) (7094111), 6.00 ITI Be Seeing You (1944) (9400173); **8.00** The Sig Red One (1980) (9412918); **10.00** Brubsker (1980) (86422375); **12.10** Town on Trial (1957) (9261512): 1.50 Suspicion (1941) (7470945), 3.30 The Great Dictator (1940) (1421574), 5.30 Close.

FILMFOUR 6.00 The Navigator (1988) (5127531). 8.00 Onibaba (1964) (5139376). 10.00 Wes Craveris New Nightmare (1994) (2216314). See Pick of the Day. 12.00 Braindead (1992) (5501406). **1.40** Brassed Off (1995) (5282338). **3.25 - 6.00** Backbeet (1993) (47717425).

DISCOVERY CHANNEL 4.00 Rex Hunt's Fishing World (8446734). 4.30 Walker's World (8442918). 5.00 Flight Deck (2802227). 5.30 Ancient Warriors (8466598). 6.00 Animal Doctor (8456111). 6.30 Natural Born Winners (Wild Discovery) (2916024). 7.30 Seyond 2000 3647). 8.00 How Did They Build That? (2891111). 8.30 Arimsi X (2987918). 9.00 The Unexplained (5166666), 10.00 Nightfighters (5169753). #LOO Real Lives: Shops and Robbers (3165519). 12.00 Survival (1827067). 1.00 Flight Deck (9359357).

recent Scream films. Wes in which Freddy steps out of the

to the schlock-horror genre remains the monstrous Freddy amazing buildings. "Ancient Krueger (right), the appalling Rome and its Mysterious Cities", child-killer played with relish by this week's Ancient Mysteries Robert Englund. With this (6pm History Channel), looks macabre figure, Craven showed at how these monuments, built that horror could be funny as more than 2,000 years ago, have well as scary. After some weak endured so well, despite the Nightmore on Elm Street films, ravages of wars and natural the fiend hit top form again in disasters. Wes Craven's New Nightmare

The Romans left us some

JAMES RAMPTON



1.30-2.00 Ancient Warriors (9698951).

7.00 The Simpsons (23531), 7.30 The Chris Evens Breakfast Show (5792), 8.30 Hollywood Squares (51753), 9.00 Quity! (61127), 10.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (31550), 11.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show (51314), 12.00 The Chris Evens Breakfast Show 89, 12.55 The Special K Collection (53243024) **1.00** Days of Our Lives (9210596) **1.55** The Special K Collection (7755511) **2.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (6039005), 2.55 The Special K Collection (2038260), **3.00** Jenny Jones (7906482). **3.55** The Special K Collection (8576208). 4.00 Guiltyi (91395). 5.00 Star Trak: Deep Space Nine (2032). 6.00 Married with Children (5753). 6.30 Friends (6005). 7.00 The Simpsons (1821), **7.30** Real TV (2289), **8.00** Stargete SG-1 (10918), **9.00** The X-Files (23482), **10.00** Millermium (33889).

11.00 Friends (92024). 11.30 Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (12734). 12.30 Rene-gade (14357). 1.30-7.0 Long Play (4173319). SKY SPORTS 1 7.00 Sky Sports Centre (67/2227). 745 World Wrestling (605799). 8.45 Sky Sports Centre (8963916). 8.30 Recing News (86550), 9.00 Aerobics - Oz Style (77802). 9.30 Footballers' Football Show (49260). 10.30 inside Scottish Football (20647). 11.30 Fastrax (25376), 12.00 Aerobics -Oz Style (97666). 12.30 Worthington Cup Football (97096), 2.00 Sports Unlimited (65043), 3.00 Inside Scottish Football

Show (48227). 5.00 World Wrestling Federation Shot Gun (4014). 6.00 Sky Sports Centre (5395), **6.30** Unbelievable Sports (6647), **7.00** Pool (67840), **8.00** Ringside (86591), **9.30** Unbelievable Sports (36043), **10.00** Sky Sports Centre (162109), **10.15** Pool (415173), 11.15 Ringside (202821). 12.45 Sky Sports Centre (5235883). 1.00 - 6.00 Golf - Australian Open (4918086).

9.30 Racing News (3996192). 10.00 Motorcycling (3916956). 12.00 international Cricket Australia vs England (7801289). 3.00 Golf Extra (8250111), 4.00 Sports Un-limited (8246918), 5.00 Watersports World (6804884), **6.00** Golf Extra (3915227), **7.00** Worthington Cup Football (1464005). 10.00 Golf Extra (6341314). **11.00** Watersports World (3976482). **12.00** V-Max (6373406). 12.30 Worthington Cup Football (6291883). 2.00 Sports Centre (†1243390). 2.15 Close.

SKY SPORTS 3 12.90 World Wresting Federation Shotgun (48507227) 1.00 Fish TV The Ultimate Fishing Show (94765260) 1.30 Fish TV Fishing Tales (48587463) 2.00 Superbouts De la Hoya vs Chavez (85095395) 3.00 Olympic Series Olympic Destinies (67249598), 3.30 Fastrax (93363956), 4.00 Motorcycling (67243314), **6.00** Fish TV Fishing Texas (93352840), **6.30** Fish TV Americana Outdoors (93343192). 7.00 In-Olympics (74747550). 10.30 Sky Sports sics (14583005), **11.30** Close,

7.30 Football (66686). 9.00 Football (36531). 11.00 Football: World Cup Leaends (93314), 12.00 Tennis (82734), 12.30 Saling (18847). **1.00** Equestranism (60442). **2.00** Luge (50111). **3.00** Football (63482). **5.00** Speedworld (5802). **6.00** Xirem Sports (26666). 7.00 Fun Sports (6531). 7.30 Bowling (31376). 9.00 Fitness (58192). 10.00 Boxing (68579). 11.00 Speedworld (81579), 12.00 Rally (89951), 12.30 Close.

UK GOLD

7.00 Crossroads (3365717). 7.30 Neighbours (4982821), 7.55 EastEnders (4306598), 8.30 The Sill (8612918), 9.00 The Bill (8636596), 9.30 Start of Series: The House of Eliott (979492), 10.30 Angels (8625482). 11.00 Dallas (3039192). **11.55** Neighbours (32488043), **12.25** East-Enders (2812192), **1.00** Juliet Bravo (7965647). 2.00 Dallas (6142531). 2.55 The Bill (2504482). 3.25 The Bill (6711482). 3.55 EastEnders (2730258). 4.30 Angels (8444376). 5.00 All Creatures Great and Small (2883192). 6.00 Due South (7998111) 7.00 May to December (2392111). 7.40 It Ain't Haif Hot, Mum (7825983). 8.20 Dad's Anny (7892666). 9.00 One Foot in The Grave (5585550): 9.40 Harrish Macbeth (13281918): 10.45 French and Saunders (7)21753). 11.20 The Bil (8465685). 11.50 The Bill (4081531). 12.20 The Chief (8748241), 115 Dangerfield (4238390), 210 Only when I Laugh (44893574), 2,40 -7.00 Shopping with Screenshop (42319116). 6.00 Tiny Living (9014111). 9.00 The Roseanne Show (4824937). 9.50 The Jerry

Springer Show (5652840). 10.40 Michael Cole (3870598), 11.30 Brookside (1790550). 12.00 Living Issues (3851531). 12.30 Rescue 911 (1331192). 1.00 Beyond Belief: Fact or Fiction (1149395). 1.30 Ready, Steady, Cook (7279734), 2.05 Rolonda (4649802). 2.55 Living It Up! (4387314). 3.55 The Jerry Springer Show (9355869), 4.45 Tempestt (7398395), 5.35 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (8676734), 6.40 The Jerry Springer Show (6396531), 7.00 Rescue 911 (7080918). 7.30 Beyond Belief: Fact or Ficion (1659734). **8.00** Ally McBeal (9409444). 9.00 Halfax FP (9402531), 11.00 The Sex Zone (1126414). 12.00 Close.

9.00 Hollywood Greats: Kisses (65854227). 10,00 Now, Voyager (1942) (84931537). **12:15** The Fixer (1968) (23257067). **2.45** Bridge to the Sun (1961) (61924661). 5.00 Close.

PARAMOUNT COMEDY CHANNEL 7.00 Ciueless (9005), 7.30 Desmond's (3173). 8.00 Roseanne (8753). 8.30 Just Shoot Me (7260), 9.00 Ellen (35753), 9.30 Seinfeld (34685), 10.00 Frasier (96937). Fun II (47598), 11.30 The Larry Sanders Show (51840), 12.00 Late Night with David Letterman (58154), **1.00** Taxl (78593), **1.30** The Critic (16241), **2.00** Dr Katz (62693), **2.30** Scap (81628), **3.00** Hooperman (98357). 3.30-4.00 Nightstand (65680).

GRANADA PLUS **6.00** The Box (9085111). **7.00** On the Buses (8415685). **7.30** Ferm Street Gang (8494192). **8.00** Surgical Spirit (8107647). 8.30 A Fine Romance (8106916). 9.00 Classic Coronation Street (8120598), 9.30 Emmerdale (8096111). 10.00 thirtysomething (6490376), **1L00** Hawaii Five-O (8403840), **12.00** Classic Coronation Street (8100734). 12.30 Emmerdale (8007227). **1.00** The Piglet Files (8414956). **1.30** Watching (8006598). **2.00** thirtysometring (4075821). 3.00 The Case-book of Sharlook Holmes (45481tf). 4.00 The Professionals (4534918). 5.00 Hawali Five-O (2308482). 6.00 Emmerdale (8713227). 6.30 Coronation St (8704579). 7,00 Mission Impossible (2130043). 8.00 The Professionals (2116463). 9.00 Coronation St (4523802), 9.30 Sez Les (8087483). 10.00 The Joker's Wild (8101463), 10.30 Hogan's Heroes (8110111), 11.00 As Granada Men & Motors (1329937). 2.00 Close.

BRIDGE ALAN HIRON

THERE WERE surprises for two of the players on this deal. First South, gloating over his gamegoing hand, was stunned to hear his partner open One Diamond, Later, West was horrified to find that his standard lead of the top of a sequence had proved disastrous.

After the opening bid South

wasted no time - he responded 7 No-trumps! This really wa Seven Diamonds would have been easy, but in No-trumps there were

only 12 top tricks. Now, just suppose that West had led either minor suit. There would have only been one practical chance for declarer - the spade finesse, leading to the undignified loss of 100 points. But West's S10 went to the jack, queen and ace...

There were still only 12 winners and apparently the main chance had gone but, in an odd way, the lead forced declarer into the winning play. He had to rely on West having led from ♠ 10 9 8 7 and also holding ♥K. After winning with called "criss-cross" squeeze.

∳KJ ♥Q753 OJ 1083 **∳**KQJ West East **♠Q432** ♥KJ842 ₩106 ♦2 264 South **◆**A65 ♥A9 ¢AKQ975 **♣**A 10

A. he cashed three club tricks. discarding 99 from hand, and followed with his six diamond tricks.

With three cards to go this left dummy with ♠K ♥0 7, declarer with ♠65 © A, and West struggling for a discard from ◆98 ♥K J. It was a perfect example of the so-

CONCISE CROSSWORD

No.3783 Wednesday 2 December 13 14 16 20 21

The Buddy Holly Story (36188609), 2.45 Trisha (2412796), 3.35 Cybernet (99036880), 4.05 Box Office America

As SBC1 Lendon except: 6.30 Newsine 6.30 (69). BBC1 N PRELAND BBC1 SCOTLAND

BBC1 SCOTLAND
As BBC1 London except: 12.25
Dotaman (3031647). 12.40 Squilachdan
Am-Cadaii (73408531). 12.45 Orain agus
Rannan (73407802). 2.05 Bowls Glasgow
Classic (7340173). 3.00 Wipeout
(4754163). 6.00 News (89). 6.30 Reporting Scotland; Weather (69). 7.00 As
BBC1 (8579). 9.30 Wer and Plate (38376).
10.00 Ex-S (16686). 10.30 OED (25314).
11.00 Bowls Glasgow Classic (82647).
12.00 Dimbleby Lecture (3024574).
12.40 Firm: The Mean Machine (673609).
2.40 Joins BBC News 24 (75287785).

BBC1 WALES BBC1 WALES
As BBC1 LONDON & SE except:
6.30 Wales Today (69), 9.30 To Be Announced (36376), 10.00 As BBC1
(579463), 10.20 The Challenge (682376),
10.50 War and Piste (79992), 11.20
Dimbleby Lecture (146937), 12.05 Film:
The Mean Machine (804613), 2.05 Joins
BBC News 24 (94576845).

ANGLIA As Cariton except: 12.20 Angla News and Weather (\$336395). 1.00 Split Second (24686). 1.30 Home and Away (42579), 2.00 Christmas Home in the Country (5698482), 5.10 Shortland Street (5207598), 6.00 Home and Away (590395), 6.25 Anglia News (702869), 10.00 ITN News; Weather (55014), 10.30 Anglia News and Weather (534005), 11.10 Crime Night (280260), 11.40 Midweek Kick Off (501840), 12.40 Film: The Buddy Holly Story (38183609). 2.45 Trisha (2412796). 3.35 Cybernet (99036680). 4.05 Box Office America (87225425). 4.30 ITV Nightscreen (41393). 5.00 Commation Street (5816). CENTRAL

CENTRAL
As Cariton except: 12.20 Central
News and Weather (6336395). 12.30
ITN News; Weather (43208). 1.00 Echo
Point (24686). 5.10 Shortland Street
(6247596). 6.00 Home and Away
(590395). 6.25 Central News and
Weather (702869). 10.30 Central News
and Weather (834005). 11.10 Central
Sports Special (972269). 4.15 Johfnder
(280897). 5.20 Asian Eye (2688203). HTV WALES As Cartton except: 10.15 This Morning (391314), 12.15 HTV News (3020531), 1.00 Shortland Street (24686), 1.30 Home and Away (42579), 2.00 Christmas Home in the Country (5698482),

5.10 Primetime Diary (6247598) 6.00 Home and Away (590395). 6.25 Wales Tonight (702869). 10.30 HTV News (834005). 11.10 Film: The Comedy of Terrors (972289). 12.40 Teles from the Crypt (3182203). 12.40 Film: The Buddy Holy Story (36188609). 2.45 Trisha (2412796). 3.35 Cybernet (99036680). 4.05 Box Office America (37225425). 4.30 ITV Nightscreen (41393). 5.00 Corporation Street (58116). HTV WEST

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

As HTV Wales except: 5.10 Wikife Rescue (6247598). 6.25 HTV West Weather (108463). 6.30 The West Tonight (37). 11.10 West Match Plus (972289). 12.10 Tales from the Darkside (3182203). MERIDIAN

MERDYAN
As Carlton except: 10.15 This Morring (391314). 12.15 Meridian Naws and Weather (3020531). 1.00 Shortland Street (24886). 1.30 Home and Away (42579). 2.00 Christmas Home in the Country (5698482). 5.30 Home and Away (824758) 5.37 Three Minutes - Free-screen (233596) 5.00 Maridian Tonight (85) 6.30 Holiday Park (37), 10.30 Merid-ian News and Weather (834005), 11.10 The Meridian Match (235260), 12.05 Tales (87225425), 4.30 ITV Nightscreen (41393), 5.00 Freescreen (58116). WESTCOUNTRY

As Cariton except: 10:15 This Morning (\$91314), 12:15 Westcountry News (30:20:531), 12:27 Illuminations (63:44314), 1.00 Emprovide (*14:50:1 5 00 111-11) (3020531), 12.27 Illuminations (6344314).
1.00 Emmerdale (24686), 6.00 Westcountry Live (51227), 10.30 Westcountry
News (834005), 11.10 The Westcountry
Match (972289), 12.10 Short Story Cinema (3182203), 12.40 Film: The Buddy
Holly Story (36188609), 2.45 Trisha
(2412796), 3.35 Cybernat (99036680),
4.05 Box Office America (67225425),
4.30 TTV Nightscreen (41393), 5.00
Coronactures

YORKSHIRE As Cariton except: 10.15 This Morn-Ag (19714). 12.15 Calendar News and Weather (3020531). 1.00 Home and Away (58561685). 1.25 Christmas Home in the Country (5250821). 2.10 Emmerdale (88613550). 5.40 News; Weather (433260). 5.55 Calendar (168376). 6.30 Tonight (37). 10.30 Calendar News and Weather (834005). 11.10 A Matter of Faith (280260). 11.40 Anatomy of Disaster

(501840). **12.40** Cool Vibes (6933929). **4.20** Jobfinder (2896135). As Yorkshire except: 12.15 North

As Yorkshire except: 12.15 North
East News and Weather (3046579). 12.25
Jobink (6344314). 5.55 North East
Weather (213734). 6.00 North East
Tonight (51227). 10.30 North East News
and Weather (834005). 11.10 in Suspiclous Circumstances (775622). 12.45
Tales from the Crypt (5529609). As Channel 4 except: 9.00 Ysgo-lon/Schools (19938043). 12.00 Judge Joe Brown (46938840). 12.30 Sesame

et (66951717). 1.00 Planed Plant -Rela Rwdins a Lisabeth (46652666). 1.30 Fim: Mute (86207395). 1.45 Fim: June Bride* (36572956). 4.30 Ricki Lake (1805482). 5.00 Planed Plant (18401918). 5.30 Countdown (11896734), 6.00 5.30 Countdown (1896734), 6.00
Newyddion (19497598), 6.10 Heno
(80127753), 7.00 Pobol y Gwm
(33881227), 7.25 Fiermio (22727109),
8.00 Gwaith Cartref (16490802), 8.30
Newyddion (16419937), 10.00 Brookside
(9525792), 10.35 Storm Force
(34676753), 11.35 Frasier (75484531),
12.05 Under the Moon (51683715), 4.00
High 5 (90727681), 4.30 Close.

DOWN

European capital (5) Peaks (7) Feature of high mountain (7)

Jousting weapon (5) 10 Follow (5) 11 Narrow neck of land (7) 13 Animal fat (4) 15 Negligent (6)

ACROSS

20 Nobleman (4) 22 Not occurring naturally (3-4) 24 Become liable for (5) 26 Mother-of-pearl (5) 27 Ruler's wife (7)

17 Items for discussion (6)

28 Upholstered seat (7) 29 Artist's support (5)

French chemist (7) Origins (5) Victory (7) Sixties flower child (6) Creek (5)

Executioner (7) Appears (5) 12 Leading player (4) 14 Second-hand (4) 16 Tailless feline (4,3) 18 Catch sight of (7) 19 Spray (7)

21 Arm of Mediterranean (6) 22 Tropical fruit (5) 23 At right angles to vessel (5) 25 Board game (5)

Solution to yesterday's Concise Crossword: ACROSS: 1 Dis. 3 Ember (December), 7 Alsatian, 8 Lace, 9 Athlete's foot, 10 Oddity, 12 Splint, 14 Dutch auction, 18 Ruin, 19 Grey area, 20 Piety, 21 Tin. DOWN: 1 Dullard, 2 Stash, 3 Ernie, 4 Baleful, 5 Recto, 6 Finery, 11 Incense, 12 Sucker, 13 Nankeen, 15 Usurp,

9

10年の機能では、10年の機能を対して、10年のものでは、10年ののでは、10年のものでは、10年ののでは、10年ののでは、10年ののでは、10年ののでは、10年ののでは、10年ののでは、10年ののでは、10年ののでは、10年ののでは、10年ののでは、10

1221 \$

50% 328

<u> 10 -</u>



PETER CONCHIE TELEVISION REVIEW

the people with a light of the people with a roun to be, albeit in a clinic with nge, while Chris, a gay met the prospective un parents of his future the theme of an

about gay men," Chris
volunteered with growing
disgust. "Why does he want a
boy? Is it so, when he grows
up, he can, like, have sex with
him?" This was an important
point to make. Notwithstanding
the fact that gay men are less
likely to abuse children than
heterosexuals of either sex,
the familiar reason Chris
wants kids is completeness,
the familiar reason Chris
wants kids is completeness,
the next myth to be batted
axide was the one about gay
and lesbian parents Haid's
sexuality. If that was Buzz and
Brenda's hope (and it certainly
didn't seem to be), one felt that
they'd be disappointed. The
couple had a little girl already
and seemed fabulously welladjusted parents, likely to vaise
normal, well-adjusted children
ones who, when teenagers,
would reject everything their
parents stand for:

Breiture there was the is serie

Brainwashing wasn't the issue, it was sexualty. "I'm not sure anyone would particularly want their children to be gay or lesbian either," Brenda remarked pointedly. "In our society, it's not an easy option." An intrusive, rather flip narration was the one weak point. "They let me film them in bed because I wanted to know exactly what lesbians do to become pregnant. It seemed to be something to do with taking your temperature. It certainly wasn't anything to do with making love." However, there were some beautifully photographed shoot of sperm a night sky of shooting stars. The programme also lacked some of producer Stephen Lumbert's stylistic ties which overran earlier Modern Times

d at a party.
The film's strengths were inly issue-ted. Such as why ngle gay man would want lavo a child in the first exe, and a man-child at that. implying, somehow, that maleness within their own unusual family unit might be an issue. And so it might, hut raising children, friends tell me, is all about issues.

A howling pun aunounced the latest assignment in Back to the Floor (BBC2). In "Top Dog", Peter Davies, an exarmy mujor-general and now director general of the RSPCA, spent four days in Leeus as an inspector for the charity. One attribute essential in such people is, of course, the ability to upset children, and Davies seemed particularly gifted in this area. He showed no mercy as mangy pets were dragged from walling infants whose parents had let the animal kingdom down. He stepped with aplomb over catless infants lying prone in the street and strode from

snivelling adolescents, without looking back, leading a skinny-ribbed mutt in the direction of a square meal and a full can of

flea spray.

The film also allowed us to find out what happened to Wayne and Waynetta Slob.
Evidently they moved to Leeds and got a couple of dogs, one called Pernod. On walking into the kitchen, a felsty colleague looked askance at the filthcaked kitchen lino. "You could do with a bit of Flash on this floor," she drily remarked.
Pernod and his companion had fleas. So did the entire house. The programme wasn't without its ironies – narrator Neil Pearson is best known for his role in Drop the Dead Donkey, and it struck me as odd that a city by the name of Leeds should have such a problem with stray dogs.

Davies's staff were

30

impressively unimpressed with their new recruit, putting the gung-ho trainee straight on more than one occasion.
Unlike last week's whitewash, in which the chief executive of Lambeth council came oversuspiciously well, this week's film was more realistic. A rescued feline represented the hard-pressed staff; a tired, toothless scrag of cat whose tongue poked out to avoid a painful ulcer. In one scene, Davies and his chaperone

News: Regional News: Weather (T) (4050192). 11.00 Good Living (S) (4077869). 11.25 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (S) (T) (4070956). 11.55 News; Regional News; Weather (T) (1985005). 12.00 Pass the Buck (S) (9674666). 12.25 Going for a Song (S) (8653173). 12.50 The Weather Show (S) (T) (73428395). 1.00 News; Weather (T) (1558). 1.30 Regional News and Weather (45732869). 1.40 Neighbours (S) (T) (97731956). 2.05 Ironside (R) (S) (3712884). 2.55 Wipeout (4025802). siness Breat 30 Kilroy (S) (T) 42444). 10,05 (

Children's BBC: Playdays (R) (S) (9514173), 3.45
Bananaman (R) (S) (6761802), 3.50 ChuckleVision (R)
(S) (3818598), 4.10 Get Your Own Back (S) (T) (7197573),
4.35 The Queen's Nose (S) (T) (9187753), 5.00
ANNEY (S) (T) (2714531), 5.10 Blue Peter (S) (T)

Neighbours. The graffit culprit is exposed. Drew gets friendly with a customer at the garage (S) (T) (281734).

6.00 News; Weather (T) (89)

6.30

A Question of Sport. Guests include rugby star Vasiga Tulgamaia, athlete Darren Campbell, Coventry City's Gary McAlister and golfer Lee Westwood (8579)

7.30 Tomorrow's World. Including a car which can drive itself during traffic Jams, and a mobile phone which can be used absolutely anywhere, thanks to the use of a constellation of 66 satellites (S) (T) (S3).

8.00 The Life of Birds. "Finding Partners". The many and varied ways in which male birds attract a mate – including the frigate bird, which spends 20 minutes inflating a red pouch on its chest, and the male hornbill, which doles out berries to prospective mates (S) (186753)

8.50 The National Lottery: Amazing Luck Stories (8) (1) (590260).

9.30 30 Where Were You? Passion, Pride and Penalties. Or to give the question in full: Where were you during England's climacitic World Cup encounter with Argentine? If your answer is that you were at your yoga class, then this programme is obviously not for you. Celebs such as Mick Jagger and Urika Jonsson join fans to relive that fateful June evening (524111).

10,50 War and Piste. More from our docu-soaped chalet staff at the French ski resort of Val-d'Isère. Emma falls out with her boss (S) (T) (682376).

Richard Dimbleby Lectures Principles of Peace. The 23rd annual Dimbleby Lecture is given by former US Senator George Mitchell, who chaired the Northern Ireland peace talks which led to the Good Friday agreement. What are the global implications of the irish peace deal? (S) (733227).

11,36 GIRIOIS The Mean Machine (Robert Aldrich 1974 US). High Seventies anti-authoritariam, with Burt Reynolde's jalled ex-pro football star treining the prisoners to take on the guards. See Film of the Day, below (106395).

Joins BBC News 24 (10513932). To 6am.

DOCUMENTARY OF THE DAY

BBC1

12.30 Working Lunch (49482), 1.00 Juniper Jungle (R) (S) (21170314), 1.10 The Arts and Crafts Hour (S) (8631460), 2.10 Match of the Day Greats (86626024), 2.40 News; Regional News; Weather (6529005), 2.45 Westminster (3323647), 3.55 News; Regional News; Weather (T) (9537288), 4.00 Change That (9547886), 4.25 Heady, Steady, Cook (S) (9540753), 4.55 Esther (R) (7412579),

5.30 Cricket ~ the Ashes. Second Test, final-day highlights from Perth (S) (18).

6.00 Star Trek: The Next Generation. Wesley returns to the Enterprise to find the crew enslaved by a fascinating but dangerous new mind game (R) (S) (52/1821).

Jeremy Paxman (T) (711005) 10.30

Brothers and Sisters. Carena thinks that Nicholas is being unfaithful (Then Weatherview) (S) (147686).

OD Despatch Box (12241), 12.30 BBC Learning Zone:
Arts - Late: The Golden Thread (83241), 1.00 Whose
Body? (96864), 1.30 Democracy in the Making (34512),
2.00 Schools: English (46593), 4.00 Deutsch Plus 1720 (64135), 5.00 Business and Training: Professional
Update - Understanding Your Business (3863628), 5.45
Open University: Shaping Up (9109280), To 6.10am.

BBC2

(3725802). **8.50** King Greentingers (3754314). **9.00** (3725802). **8.50** King Greentingers (3754314). **9.00** Space Ark – the Environment (2938043). **9.10** What? Where? When? Why? (2923578). **9.25** Who – Me? (381314). **9.45** Words and Pictures (3801847). **10.00** Teletubbles (R) (S) (68192). **10.30** Numbertime (S) (4350111). **10.45** Watch (S) (435666). **11.00** Around Scotland (S) (4734). **11.30** The Geography Programme (3789550). **11.40** Science in Action (1405550). **12.00** Teaching Today (S) (13579).

Silders. When a militarised America is threatened by radioactivity from a pulsar, a colonel decides who will be saved - and who will be left to die. Science fiction, by the way (5) (1) (837289).

7.30 BIUDE Behind Closed Doors. "Not a Gentleman's Club" goes behind the portals of the University Women's Club. See Documentary of the Day, below (S) (T) (95).

8.00 Looking Good. Jil Dando shares her packing tips for a weekend away, and there's a look at the latest cellulite treatment (R) (S) (T) (5869).

Home Front. Alternatives to conventional flooring (including rubber for a bachelor's bathroom), and a hallway makeover for £300 (S) (T) (4376).

8,30

9.00 Nurse. The student nurses begin to specialise in their chosen areas, with John Denton and Hannah Knowles looking after critically III bables, and Jo Banks and Ron Pogue working with mentally III patients (S) (T) (870005)

9.50 Naked. Continuing the series about people's attitudes to their bodies, and this week it's adults in their twentles and thirties. They are often considered to be at their physical peak, but do they feel it? Contains, as the Radio Times Informs its readers, "explicit imagery of bodies." (2) Process

lews; Weather (T) (55014).

10,40 Clive James on TV. The Australian wit is helped by a celebrity audience and Matthew Kelly as he revisits old sitcoms. Sounds grim, doesn't it? (S) (794647). London Tonight (T) (834005).

Tales from the Crypt (5504390). Carlton Sport. Worthington Cup quarter-final highlights from Spurs vs Manchester United (972289).

12.10 **ITIM** Fort Apache, the Bronx (Danlel Petrle 1981 US). Episodic and none-too-extraordinary policing yarn with Paul Newman as the grizzled career cop up against the corruption of his superiors (940/46375).

3.00 Trisha (7806970). 3.45 Cybernet (21680). To 4.15am.

GMTV (1654753)

5.40 News; Weather (T) (197956).

0 0 0 **London Tonlight.** Regional news update for the capital and the South-East, including a local weather bullatin (T) (85).

London Bridge. Capital soap. Ravi cannot face up to his divorce. Troubis looms for Jarvis and Jyoti (S) (37).

Emmerdale. Yorkshire folk. Kathy's strange behaviour horrifles her friends. Scott takes advantage of Tricla (S) (T) (3647).

7.00

Celebrity Stars in Their Eyes. Special edition of the mimic-a-star show, with various Coronation Street actresses impersonating the Spice Girls, Carol Vorderman as Cher, and so on (S) (T) (7173).

QIOTE: Men for Sale. Ulrika Jonsson and Denise van Outen host a charity auction in which an all-female audience bids for dates with male celebrities. See Fundralser of the Day, below (T) (7937). 9.00

10,30

Bob and Margaret. Animated married couple. Bob and Margaret deliver their dogs, William and Elizabeth, to the kennels, while they jet off on holiday (S) (T) (18024).

11.30 The Comedy Lab. This year's Perrier Award winner, Tommy Tiernan, is caught live on stage in his home town of Galway (59444).

25 Trisha (S) (T) (2385444). 10.15 This Morning (T) (52272376). 12.20 Your Shout (6336395). 12.30 News; Weather (T) (43208). 1.00 London Today (T) (24886). 1.30 Christmas Home in the Country (7676918). 2.10 Home and Away (S) (T) (86613550). 2.40 Dale's Supermarket Sweep (S) (T) (4054314). 3.10 ITN News Headlines (T) (1566550).

Children's ITV: Wizadora (R) (8353463), 3,30 The Slow Norris (S) (3435024), 3,45 The Animal Shelf (S) (3430579), 4,00 Rupert (R) (S) (8534192), 4,25 The Rottentrolls (S) (T) (1738783), 4,40 Med for it (1273869).

Home and Awa / (S) (T) (8247598).

3.30

6.30

Coronation Street. Mad, bad Greg snaps when the bottle, and Sally gets in the way (T) (21).

8.00 00 7.55 The 1998 Turner Prize: Writing about Art. More reflections on the Turner Prize (T) (582955). Brookside. Ron is determined to tell DD about Harry but is puzzled by Anthea's reaction. News of the surrogacy receives a mixed response (S) (T) (5/27).

8.30 The Real Hollday Show. Davina McCall hears from a family visiting London and the old haunts of Diana, Princess of Wales, and a trainspotter on his way to Poland to drive a steam train (T) (9444).

Drop the Dead Donkey. Henry finds new fame as an icon of youth TV (9666).

9.30 is it Legai? Solicitors sitcom. Colin encourages the office to spend a Japanese-style evening bonding with their partners (S) (T) (54314).

10.00 Rising Damp. Rigsby is given some advice by Alan and Philip as well as some tablets to calm his nerves in his amorous pursuit of Miss Jones (T) (55096).

11.00 Whose Line is It Anyway? Filmed before an American audience, the improvisers are Patrick Bristow, Wayne Brady, Colin Mochrie and Ryan Stiles (S) (411).

12.00 Under the Moon. Sports action and reaction for insomnlacs includes Football Italia (at 2.35am), High Five (at 4am) and Kabaddi (at 4.30am) (8472280). To 5.55am.

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9.00 Channel 4 Schools: The Mix (1111), 9.30 Rat-a-Tat-Tat (3891260), 9.45 Book Box (3829043), 10.00 Stage Two Science (3955260), 10.15 All about Us (397811), 10.30 Topl En Français (8549531), 10.50 Stop, Look, Listen (9426444), 11.00 First Edition V (3971260), 11.15 inside Art (3994111).

(R) (S) (657211). 7.30 Milkshakel (S) (211111) 7.35 Wilmzie's House (R) (S) (6783314). 8.00 Havekazoo (R) (S) (7194666). 8.30 Dappledown Farm (7193937). 9.00 HouseBusters (R) (S) (T) (3727376). 9.25 Hogariths Chiswick (R) (4652734). 9.30 The Oprah Winirey Show (8818483). 10.20 Sunset Beach (S) (T) (60.47555). 11.10 Leeza (R) (S) (806385). 12.30 5 News at Noon (S) (T) (7197753). 12.30 Family Aliars (R) (S) (T) (2718463). 1.00 The Bold and the Beautiful (S) (T) (6571482). 1.30 Sons and Daughters (2717734). 2.00 100 Per Cent Gold (S) (1098314). 2.30 Good Alternoon (S) (2762289).

Sesame Street (35937). **7.00** The Big Breakfast (S) (T) (98821).

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THE WEDNESDAY REVIEW
The Independent 2 December 1998

1.45 **ITLY Kentucky** (David Butler 1938 US), Love among the horsebreeders in this lushly harmless *Romeo and Juliet* on the racetrack. Loretta Young and Richard Greene were the stars, but Walter Brennan rode off with the Oscar (T) (75719024).

3.30 ITEM How I Spent My Summer Vacation
(William Hale 1967 US). Early TV movie has Robert
Wagner as a sueve ex-army chap out to revenge himself
on the reclusive billionaire (Peter Lawford) who publicly
humiliated him. Co-stars Lola Albright, Walter Pidgeon
and Jill St John (S) (T) (7110376).

11.30 Powerhouse (T) (3901). 12.00 Sesame Street (72727). 12.30 | Dream of Jeannie (T) (34550). 1.00 Judge Jos Brown (T) (24668). 1.30 The Voice-Over Queen (75471647).

90.0 Late Lunch with Mel and Sue. The archly honic Gledroyc and Perkins's guests are Joanna Lumley, Jo Brand and Graham Norton (59869). Collectors' Lot (43). 4.00 Fifteen to One (50). 4.30 Countdown (9171192). 4.55 Ricki Lake (S) (T) (7407647). 5.30 Pet Rescue Roadshow (T) (14).

6.00 100 Per Cent. The game show without a lost (S) (2923753).

5.20 The Roseanne Show (9694208).

6.30 Family Affairs. Pamela is jealous when she finds out about Susie and Nick. And Meria's fling with Gary faiters when she discovers he wants a relationship (2914005).

Channel 4 News; Weather. Including headlines at 7.30pm (S) (T) (816163). 7.00 5 News (S) (T) (1069802).

7.30 The Pepsi Chart. Boyzone top the bill (S) (2910288)

8.00 The Sweeney. Oh good. One of Channel 5's few positive services to the viewing public has been the repeats of these classic old copper yerns from the deepest, clarkest (actually, a sort of beigey brown) 1970s, in the first of a new run, Regan (John Thaw) is seduced by a glamorous foreigner (T) (6164937).

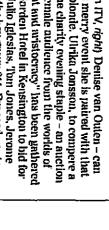
9,00 US). Also from the unreconstructed 1970s is this buddy-buddy police flick wasting both the talents of Alan Arkin and James Caan as the conventionally mismatched duo. Arkin's wastage is the more unforgivable, even if much of the damage which ruined his once-promising career seems to have been self-inflicted. They are San Franciscan police officers who discover that there is a contract out on the mobster they are due to apprehend. Cue car chases, racist jibes, male bonding etc (S) (T) (42688840).

11.05 Melinde's Blg Night In. Melinda Messenger beams at Alexander O'Neal, Space, Gall McKenna and Little and Large (S) (2998376).

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11.45 The Streets of San Francisco (S) (2245482). 12.45 Ice Hockey – NHL '98 (S) (12561970). 4.40 Club Class (R) (S) (81164067). 5.05 Move On Up (R) (S) (19834338). 5.30 100 Per Cent (R) (S) (7726574). To 6am.

TELEVISION GUIDE BY GERARD GILBERT

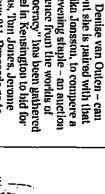


FUNDRAISE R OF THE DAY

MEN FOR SALE (9pm ITV, anyone explain? In this men IV, right) Denise van Outen – can erry event she is paired with that nde. Ulrika Jonsson, to compere a charity evening staple – an auction ale audience from the worlds of and aristocracy" has been gathered den Hotel in Kensington to bid for o Iglesias, Tom Jones, Jerome boy group 911. Proceeds go to Il interesting to see who bids for a with Dale Winton.

BEHIND CLOSED DOORS (7.30pm BBC2) Behind the portals of the University Women's Club in Mayfair – a womenonly establishment for high achievers (the founder members, in 1187, included the first principals of Oxford's women's colleges). Nowadays, opera singer Sarah Walker (right) and actress Sheila Hancock are among its subscribers, "There are some very checky ladies around with wild and revolutionary ideas," reckons Hancock, although such qualities are not immediately apparent at the soirée for prospective members. Only one seems to think that a single-sex club is an anomaly today. It's handy for the theatre, though, so she joins anyway.

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FILM OF THE DAY

THE MEAN MACHINE (11.35pm BBC1) If you think the Superbow is something you might buy from Habitat for your aunt this Christmas, then perhaps Robert Aldrich's 1974 prison-cum-football action comedy is not for you. Part of Hollywood's post-M*A*S*H anti-authoritarian cycle, this stars Burt Reynolds (right) as an ex-pro footballer jailed for drink-driving, and bribed by the prison's sadistic warden (Eddie Albert at his nastiest) to train the guards' team in a game against the prisoners. Albert's performance and Tracy Keenan Wynn's script give this gridiron, prison-yard Dirty Dozen a real kick.



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